

Five US staff are expelled by Russians

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A damaging series of tit-for-tat diplomatic expulsions was threatened last night after the Soviet Union unceremoniously ordered the removal of five American diplomats and the American government immediately announced its intention of taking unspecified retaliation.

Coming exactly a week after the breakdown of the Reykjavik summit over the contentious issue of "Star Wars", the new diplomatic row is threatening to sour further the mood between the superpowers and to hinder efforts to return relations between them to a more harmonious pitch.

The mutual suspicion was reinforced last night when Tass, the official Soviet news agency, issued a bitter, four-page denunciation of the public attitude towards the Reykjavik meeting adopted by Mr Casper Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defence and the Assistant Secretary, Mr Richard Perle.

Under the headline "Sordid manoeuvres", the article by a leading news analyst, Mr Yuri Kornilov, accused both men of trying to mislead the world about what had taken place in Iceland and concluded: "The Pentagon hawks' false 'preparedness' to settle the question

of medium-range missiles is only a propaganda manoeuvre directed at concealing, camouflaging their own militaristic plans."

Although nothing was said in the statement from the Soviet Foreign Ministry, which ordered the expulsions yesterday morning, the move was seen as direct retaliation.

The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, said yesterday that the United States would retaliate against the Soviet Union for the expulsions (Reuters reports from Washington). He said he would be consulting President Reagan.

Those expulsions were, in their turn, a spin-off from the arrest by the KGB on August 30 of Mr Nicholas Daniloff, the veteran US journalist, which seriously disrupted relations between the Kremlin and the White House and led to the release of Mr Gennady Zakharov, a Soviet UN employee charged with spying.

Senior members of the US Embassy here appeared taken by surprise by yesterday's Soviet declaration that five diplomats were persona non grata and the accusation that all had conducted "activities incompatible with their dip-

lomatic status" — diplomatic shorthand for espionage.

Earlier, there had been hopes on the US side that the issue of the expulsions of the Soviet UN personnel — also on suspicion of espionage — had blown over. A senior Soviet official hinted as much at a press conference last week, but last night American sources said that the new expulsions had escalated the affair, as their positions were not compatible with the members of the UN mission.

Tass said that a firm protest had been lodged with the US Embassy over the activities of the five, one First Secretary, Mr William Norvill, Mr Charles Ehrenfried, Mr Gary Lonnquist, and Mr David Harris, all from the US Embassy in Moscow and Mr Jack Roberts from the American Consulate in Leningrad.

The attention of the US Embassy was again drawn to the continuing use of American diplomatic missions in the USSR for illegal activities against the Soviet Union and the demand was made that appropriate measures be taken for stopping them," the Soviet communiqué concluded.

Although the Kremlin threatened retaliation for the removal of Russian UN staff, deadlines for the expulsions were extended and both Soviet and American officials dropped strong hints to

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Tory blueprint for the future of broadcasting

Cabinet pushes radical TV and radio shake-up

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government is pushing ahead with plans for the reorganization of broadcasting in advance of the next general election, with the Prime Minister and Home Secretary favouring indexation of the BBC licence fee to keep pace with inflation.

They are pushing on with direct broadcasting by satellite to break up what Mrs Margaret Thatcher sees as the cosy monopoly of television advertising enjoyed by ITV companies.

A Green Paper on the future of radio due within the next few weeks is expected to revive the prospects for community radio and to lead to a new authority taking over looser control of local radio from the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

Ministers have been stung by charges that they were allowing broadcasting issues to lie fallow until after the next election because difficult choices were involved and the Peacock Committee had not backed the Prime Minister's preferred option of advertising on the BBC.

A Cabinet committee is forging ahead with the preparations for several decisions to be made over the next three months, with an early Commons debate scheduled.

Five consortia are competing for the 15-year DBS franchise, which will involve the provision of three more television channels of high definition. It is estimated that about 70,000 new jobs could be involved and the Government has signalled its eagerness to develop the field by dropping its insistence on the use of British satellites only

and agreeing to an extension of the franchise. A decision from the IBA is expected by January.

The Green Paper will examine the structure, financing and regulation of local radio. The Government originally backed the idea of community radio and planned to issue licences allowing ethnic minorities and specialist groups to broadcast in a six-mile radius.

There was an outcry from those who had spent money on transmitters and equipment when Mr Douglas Hurd announced in June that the plan had been scrapped, and that licences for the first 23 stations, already postponed, would not be issued. But the issue is expected to resurface if new ways can be found of settling who will control and administer the stations.

Ministers are considering the provision of some Government money to help existing groups to start up community radio.

With radio only attracting about 2 per cent of national advertising revenue, ministers have been alarmed at the poor finances of many local independent radio stations. The Green Paper will also examine plans for a national independent radio station and the Peacock Committee's call for the selling off of Radio 1 and Radio 2.

On the future financing of television, a feasibility study has been commissioned to study pay-as-you-view television, but Mrs Thatcher and Mr Hurd see little alternative in the immediate future to indexation of the BBC's licence fee.

MPs get damages over 'Panorama'

By David Sapped

The BBC will admit today that a *Panorama* programme wrongly branded two Conservative MPs as having links with extreme racist groups trying to infiltrate the Tory Party.

When the first of two libel actions brought by MPs Mr Neil Hamilton (Tatton) and Mr Gerald Howarth (Cannock and Burntwood) starts its second week in the High Court today, barristers will reveal an out-of-court settlement which will cost the Corporation more than £300,000.

Under the terms of an agreement hammered out on Friday, the MPs will get damages of £20,000 each, a full apology from the BBC and

reimbursement for legal fees, which already stand at more than £250,000.

Mr Hamilton, whose case is currently being heard by the court, said yesterday: "There is absolutely no comment I can make except that the case will resume on Monday."

The Corporation has already reached out-of-court settlements with two other Tory MPs — Mr Roger Moore (Faversham) and Mr Harvey Proctor (Billerica) — who were alleged in a *Panorama* programme "Maggie's Militant Tendency" broadcast in 1984, to have links with neo-fascist groups.

Although the BBC and the

Continued on page 24, col 1



Mr Hamilton, lawsuit MP, at home yesterday with wife Christine (Photograph: Leslie Lee)

State visit to China a success

From Alan Hamilton Hong Kong

The Royal Yacht Britannia portered at a Sampan's pace down the Pearl River on its leisurely way to Hong Kong yesterday at the end of the Queen's state visit to China which has been described as "fantastic" and one of the most successful of recent times.

Her visit ended with a colourful display of Chinese dancing on the quayside at a container port near Canton on Saturday night as Britannia prepared to leave.

Unfortunately the Queen missed half of it due to a mix-up over timings, while she was inside the yacht investing the diplomatic staff from the Peking Embassy, who had arranged the tour with descending classes of the Royal Victorian Order, a decoration in her own gift.

Both sides are playing down the Duke of Edinburgh's gaff while speaking to students at Xian.

Nevertheless British diplomatic sources in China remain deeply embarrassed by the incident and fear a retaliation at some future date. The feeling is being voiced privately that the Royal couple should have been better briefed on the intricacies of China, especially its high regard for propriety and politeness.

During the Queen's formal meeting with Mr Hu Yaobang, the General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, it did not go unnoticed that while the Queen was exchanging pleasantries with the Chinese leader through an

Continued on page 24, col 8

Russia faces huge winter power cuts

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Chernobyl nuclear disaster and a less widely reported summer drought have plunged the Soviet Union into one of its most severe energy crises in recent memory with sweeping emergency measures to cut electricity consumption now in operation in all its 15 republics.

In Moscow and all other major cities large areas have been deprived of street lighting for the winter, illuminated signs extolling the benefits of communism have been dimmed on government orders and factories put on special shifts.

Although senior Kremlin officials claim that the temporary generating shortfall of six million kilowatts will not affect output, some Western experts here believe that the crisis may badly affect Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's attempts to lift the troubled economy from the doldrums.

Darkened streets and special broadcasts calling for cuts in domestic electricity consumption — which accounts for some 20 per cent of the national total — have been going on for some weeks and forecasters predict a particularly severe Russian winter, with two unseasonable September blizzards already experienced in Moscow.

In a gloom-laden interview with *Nedelya*, the weekly supplement printed by the government paper, *Izvestia*, Mr Dmitry Protsenko, chief of the energy department of the large Ministry of Power and Electrification, appealed for energy savings.

He explained that many factories would work staggered shifts, others at weekends only and many workers would be given time off during the week.

He confirmed the predictions of energy specialists in a number of Western embassies that the Chernobyl disaster would set off a nationwide energy crisis. Explaining the reasons for the six-million kilowatts shortfall Mr Protsenko said Chernobyl noticeably affected the country's energy balance and because of the commissioning of three new nuclear power stations at Zaporozhye and Rovno, also in the Ukraine and Kallinin, in the Moscow region, had been postponed.

Mr Protsenko also blamed adverse climatic conditions and claimed that the drought had badly affected the output of the country's hydro-electric power stations.

At present nuclear power accounts for some 11 per cent of all the electricity generated in the Soviet Union, but under the Kremlin's ambitious nuclear power programme, this is due to increase to 20 per cent by 1990.

Under the terms of an agreement hammered out on Friday, the MPs will get damages of £20,000 each, a full apology from the BBC and

Ruskin dispute, Page 7

Government to combat student 'intolerance'

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

The Government is determined to combat "the cancer of intolerance" which was spreading in certain universities, Mr George Walden, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday.

"We are going squarely for the so-called no-platform policy which allows student unions to stick ready-gummed labels of sexist or racist on those people whose views they happen to dislike," he said.

Mr Walden, who has special responsibility for tertiary education, was speaking on BBC Radio's *World at One* Parliament will shortly debate

a special clause in the Education Bill designed to safeguard free speech on campuses.

The minister rejected the idea of special campus police forces to secure law and order, but warned that the presence of extra police could well be the price to be paid to ensure freedom of speech.

Earlier, Sir John Kingman, vice-chancellor of Bristol University, defended security precautions at a meeting on Friday when Mr Enoch Powell, Ulster Unionist MP for South Down, was forced from the student union building by a group of anarchists.

Most of the signatories from East Germany are active anti-nuclear campaigners, including Mr Ralf Hirsch from the "Swords into Plough Shares" movement.

The proclamation will probably irritate Moscow, which has always feared that dissidents in the Soviet Bloc would combine in a common cause.

"The traditions and experiences of the Hungarian revolution remain our common heritage and inspiration," said the appeal, which indicated that the signatories supported

Big Bang rehearsal brings explosion

By Michael Clark and Richard Thomson

The dress rehearsal on Saturday for next week's Big Bang, which saw dealing on the Stock Exchange at the weekend for the first time in its 250 years, ran into serious problems.

With just seven days to go, a rift has opened between the Stock Exchange and its members over faults in the new screen dealing system.

Dealers spent the day

transacting entirely fictitious business from a "script" worked out in advance. A total of 40,000 trades were conducted on the equity market worth around £500 million, while 2,000 trades, worth £4 billion, were transacted in the government securities market.

The Stock Exchange, which has spent £80 million in the past two years developing the system, claimed that the operation had been a success. But a post-mortem examination

on Saturday highlighted a number of shortcomings in the way dealers transact their business.

Mr Patrick Mitford-Slade, a member of the Stock Exchange Council, said the problems could probably be ironed out by the middle of this week. He insisted that they were caused by shortcomings in the internal computer systems of member firms.

Big Bang anger, page 25

Thatcher has key role in arms talks

By Michael Evans, Whitehall Correspondent

The Prime Minister is expected to play an important part in maintaining the momentum of arms control negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union following the breakdown of the Reykjavik summit.

It now seems certain that Mrs Thatcher's visit to Moscow next year will take place before any new summit between President Reagan and the Soviet leader Mr Mikhail Gorbachev in Washington.

Although the Russians have not fixed a date for her visit to Moscow, it will almost definitely be in April and diplomatic sources are convinced that there is no likelihood of a follow-up summit in Washington before then. So Mrs Thatcher's visit has taken on a new dimension.

A series of key meetings are being planned for Mrs Thatcher before she goes to the Soviet Union. The first will be a session with President Reagan in Washington next month.

This meeting was planned before the Reykjavik summit was even suggested by Mr Gorbachev and there were reports last week that Mrs Thatcher would now put off her trip to the US because it might seem as if she was going to Washington to persuade President Reagan to drop his commitment to the Star Wars project for the sake of a major arms control agreement.

However, sources said yesterday that Mrs Thatcher would be going to Washington next month though without any intention of weakening

President Reagan's resolve to stay with Star Wars.

Mrs Thatcher will also meet President Mitterrand of France and Chancellor Kohl of West Germany before she goes to Moscow.

She is concerned that there should be continuity in the way the western alliance approaches

proaches arms control issues and she sees herself adopting a high profile role.

Despite the collapse of the Reykjavik summit, Mrs Thatcher has not changed her personal view about Star Wars. She accepts that research cannot be halted.

But she intends to stick rigidly to the key guidelines on Star Wars which were proposed by her and accepted by President Reagan at a meeting at Camp David in December 1984.

The four points of agreement which she reached with President Reagan were: that the US did not seek superiority; that once the research approached the possible deployment stage it should be subject to negotiation with the Soviet Union; that the object of the research was to enhance not undermine detente and that the US should continue to search for balanced and verifiable arms control agreements.

Branson to sell shares

Mr Richard Branson is bringing the Virgin Group to the stock market next month valuing it at £250 million.

It includes the Virgin record shops and music business which handles stars like Boy George and Genesis.

Virgin's first success was with the Mike Oldfield *Tubular Bells* album. The Virgin Atlantic cut-price airline is excluded from the sale, as is

Virgin Holidays, the travel arm of the company.

Mr Branson, who left school at the age of 16 to run a student magazine, will own shares worth £175 million in the new Virgin public company.

He says that most of the money raised from the sale will be used to expand Virgin's business in America.

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East bloc dissidents issue Hungary proclamation

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

Dissidents from four East European countries have for the first time overcome mysteriously broken telephone connections, censored mail and rigorous customs checks to issue a joint appeal to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian revolution.

The appeal, released in Eastern Europe at the weekend, was signed by 122 leading dissidents from Hungary, Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Drawing parallels between the Hungarian revolution, which began on October 23 1956, the East German workers' rebellion of 1953, the "Prague spring" of 1968 and the Polish Solidarity era of 1980-81, the dissidents said there was a common struggle for political democracy.

Protests in the four countries had been "oppressed by Soviet intervention or by domestic military violence," said the appeal, which is entitled "a joint proclamation for Eastern Europe."

"We declare our joint

determination to struggle for political democracy in our country, their independence, for pluralism based on the principle of self government, for the peaceful reunification of divided Europe," it said.

Signatories include Mr Laszlo Rajk, son of a Hungarian Minister executed in 1949. A prominent signatory from Czechoslovakia is Mr Jiri Hayek, a former Foreign Minister. Supporters of the appeal from Poland include Mr Jacek Kuron, one of the co-founders of the KOR workers self-defence committee.

Most of the signatories from East Germany are active anti-nuclear campaigners, including Mr Ralf Hirsch from the "Swords into Plough Shares" movement.

The proclamation will probably irritate Moscow, which has always feared that dissidents in the Soviet Bloc would combine in a common cause.

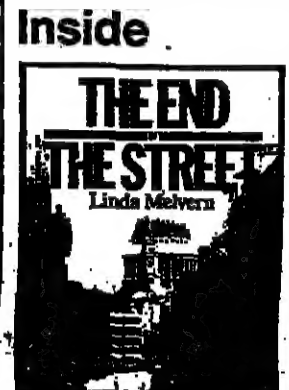
"The traditions and experiences of the Hungarian revolution remain our common heritage and inspiration," said the appeal, which indicated that the signatories supported

loosening of Soviet control in eastern Europe.

A proclamation involving Czechoslovak dissidents is an extraordinary logistical feat. Most have had their phones cut off and those who are still connected find it very difficult to make international calls.

● MASS FOR PRIEST: A mass was held last night to commemorate the second anniversary of the killing of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the Solidarity chaplain, by secret police officers.

Leading article, page 21



The Fleet Street revolution

In the first extract from her book *The End of the Street*, Linda Melvern tells how Rupert Murdoch, opposed at every turn by the unions, called his executives to New York and outlined the plans for his evening paper — the London Post

Portfolio

- The weekly £8,000 prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition was shared by Mr Allan Hall of London W2, Mr N K Sommers of West Byfleet, Surrey and Mr R J Stillwell of Orpington, Kent.
- Saturday's daily prize of £4,000 was shared by Miss P Hackett of Sherborne, Dorset and Miss Judith Speight of Leeds.
- There is another £4,000 to be won today. Portfolio list, page 30; rules and how to play, page 24.

TIMES BUSINESS

Dixons buy

Dixons, the electrical retailer, is buying the chain of 344 SuperSnaps photocopying shops together with three film laboratories for £4 million from 3M, the American group. Page 25

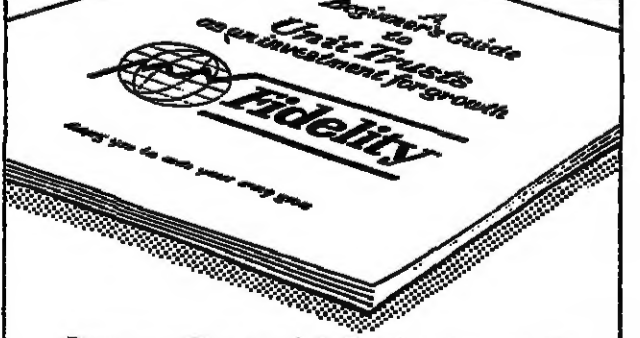
TIMES SPORT

England lose

England were beaten 2-1 by the favourites Australia in the final of the hockey World Cup at Willesden yesterday. Page 40

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MAKING MONEY MAKE MONEY

Tories may hear 'spanking' tapes

Conservative councillors at Basildon, Essex, will decide this week whether to listen to tapes which accuse Mr Harvey Proctor, MP for Billericay, of engaging in spanking sessions with young men.

Four senior members of Billericay Conservative Association resigned last Friday after Mr Proctor received a vote of confidence at a stormy meeting during which he was questioned about the allegations.

If the Basildon councillors listen to the tapes, they will then decide whether to take action against the MP. One of the councillors, Mr George Dighton, said last night: "I totally support the four people who resigned. We believe that Mr Proctor is not doing enough to clear his name."

Mr Proctor, a bachelor, has described the allegations as a "tissue of lies" but has said that he will not sue over the accusations because of the costs involved and because it would involve people having to give testimony and that would embarrass them.

Checks at Windsor CID seek 'Dave'

Security measures at Windsor Castle are to be reviewed by Scotland Yard after the arrest eight days ago of an intruder (Tim Jones writes).

The man was questioned but released without charge because no offence was committed. He had climbed scaffolding in an area of the castle which is open to the public. It is understood he told police he wanted to make a protest over a personal grievance.

No member of the Royal Family was in residence at the castle at the time.

Asian visa rush ends

Immigration officers will decide this week on the fate of the last 200 people held when they flew into Heathrow Airport earlier this month in an attempt to beat the Government's new visa restrictions.

The people, mainly single males from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, who were described as "tricky cases", were moved at the weekend to the Harmondsworth immigrant detention centre, Middlesbrough, and to youth custody centres in Wiltshire and Kent.

The Home Office said the detainees would be processed this week. To satisfy visa entry requirements, they must prove they have come to Britain as visitors.

Veteran MP dies

Mr Simon Mahon, the former Labour MP, died at his home yesterday, aged 72. He represented Bootle, Liverpool, for 24 years. Mr Mahon was elected in 1955 and remained as the MP until 1979, when his successor, Mr Allan Roberts, took over. His wife, Veronica, said yesterday that her husband, who was discharged from hospital a few weeks ago, was suffering from a severe stomach disorder. The couple, who had no children, lived in Crosby.



Saab recalls Turbos

Saab is recalling the first 720 of its 137mph, 9000 Turbo 16 cars to fit new bonnet retaining catches, after two customers reported that the bonnet had worked free.

About 1,000 of the cars have been sold in Britain but only the first 720 up to and including chassis number CG 1007702 are affected.

BA pilots' shares move fails

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

Plans by British Airways pilots to buy up to 25 per cent of the airline's shares when it is privatized next year have been squashed by the management.

The pilots wanted the Government to allow them to buy up to £6,000 of shares each in the airline under a special deal arranged through their union, Balpa, and the Trustee Savings Bank. That would have given them up to 25 per cent of the shares.

But the airline management is determined that all its staff must be treated equally, from baggage handlers to Concorde captains, and will resist any such plans.

Details of the privatization are to be announced in London tomorrow when it is expected that all employees will be offered about £100 of free shares and the right to buy the same number again at a discount.

● Britain's three main scheduled airlines are engaged in a big new battle for the highly competitive non-stop flight market from London to the Far East. The record-breaking 12-hour 25-minute inaugural British Airways 747 "City of Edinburgh" flight to Hong Kong at the weekend has brought British Airways into the battle with British Caledonian and Cathay Pacific.

ROYALTY THE TIMES OVERSEAS
Australia \$2.25; Belgium & France 2.00; Canada 2.00; Denmark 2.00; Germany 2.00; Greece 1.50; Hong Kong 2.00; India 2.00; Ireland 1.50; Italy 2.00; Japan 2.00; Korea 2.00; Luxembourg 1.50; Malaysia 2.00; Mexico 2.00; Netherlands 2.00; New Zealand 2.00; Norway 2.00; Pakistan 2.00; Portugal 2.00; Singapore 2.00; South Africa 2.00; Sweden 2.00; Switzerland 2.00; Taiwan 2.00; Thailand 2.00; USA \$1.75; Yugoslavia 2.00.

Compensation challenge by state firm Threat to Tory plans for privatization

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

The Government is to be taken to the European Court of Human Rights once more in a case which could blight its privatization programme.

The European Commission has declared admissible before the court a further action by former shareholders of Scott Lithgow, the offshore and shipbuilding group.

It was one of seven companies nationalized by the last Labour government on compensation terms which were criticized then by Conservative spokesmen.

Shareholders in Vosper Thornycroft, the naval shipbuilders, were awarded £5.3 million for assets worth £37 million at the date of nationalization.

The Kincaid engineering business, suppliers of marine engines to Scott Lithgow, had assets valued at £19 million,

which included £5 million in cash. But shareholders were paid £3.8 million, leaving the Government the goodwill plus a cash profit of £1.2 million.

Aggrieved shareholders in several of the companies lost their case at the Strasbourg court earlier this year when they sought to force the present Government to improve the compensation deal.

Now Lithgow is to fight a new action, claiming that the Court of Human Rights made its decision on incorrect facts.

MPs and some ministers have been alarmed at the way the Government has contested the claims. They fear that fresh publicity could affect the privatization schedule just when it has become crucial to the Government's pre-election economic programme.

The aggrieved shareholders are making efforts to have specific warnings about their

cases incorporated in the prospectus for the sale of British Gas, especially in the United States.

In addition, a monograph has been drawn up by Mr John Macdonald, QC, setting out the implications of the original Strasbourg case.

It is being sent also to the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, which will have to vet any British Gas prospectus launched in the United States.

Mr Macdonald's paper declares: "The court's judgement has undoubtedly made it easier for a future Labour government to renationalize British Telecom and British Gas and to backdate the compensation so that investors are left with only the price for which the shares were originally sold."

Government supporters believe that by fighting the compensation claims, to save a payout of about £300 million

of public funds, ministers have demonstrated that future Labour governments can renationalize privatized companies on virtually any terms. In addition, they believe, thousands of millions of British assets have been put at risk of confiscation in the Third World.

When the last Labour government nationalized the shipbuilding and aircraft industries in 1977 prices were to be fixed according to the behaviour of the Stock Exchange during the period from September 1973 to February 1974.

That period coincided with a depressed market, a miners' strike, the three-day week, the Arab-Israeli war, the oil embargo, the quadrupling of oil prices and dividend restraint.

Senior Conservatives, all of them subsequently members of the Cabinet which has fought to prevent a better

payout, were loud in condemnation at the time. Mr Nigel Lawson called the terms "grossly inadequate". Mr Michael Heseltine called it "more like confiscation than compensation". Mr Norman Tebbit said there was "no equity" in the deal and Mr Tom King spoke of "outright confiscation".

In office, the Conservatives instructed lawyers to argue that the nationalization was a "lawful measure" which the then Labour government was entitled to take, and that the compensation was adequate.

But it is clear that the Government intends to continue fighting any claim for improved compensation.

In a letter dated July 4, 1985, Mrs Thatcher told Mr Alan Beith, Liberal MP, that the compensation was "insufficient to the point of being unfair".

But in a letter dated

September 23 this year to Sir William Lithgow, former vice-chairman of Scott Lithgow, she appears to have gone back on that, declaring: "The amount of compensation was calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Act. I do not accept that this Government used the Act to produce unfair results."

Last night, Sir William said that it was wrong for Conservative ministers to blame Labour for the compensation terms as they had finally been fixed during Sir Keith Joseph's time as Mrs Thatcher's first Secretary of State for Industry.

Sir William said that what had started as a "rather squallid argument about money" had become an issue of fundamental property rights.

What had happened had introduced a new international standard.

Steel tries to unite party on defence

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

Mr David Steel yesterday took the first step towards coaxing his party into a joint defence policy with the SDP after his defeat at this year's Liberal Assembly.

Mr Steel met Mr Des Wilson, the party president, Mr Simon Hughes, MP for Bermondsey, a party defence rebel, and Mr Jim Wallace, MP for Orkney and Shetland, the Liberal defence spokesman, at his home in Etrick Bridge in the Borders.

He is said to have agreed with them that the situation could have been handled much better at Eastbourne, and that there will be more consultation in future about the framing of resolutions, with more contact between leadership and rank and file.

Mr Wilson said Mr Steel "could not have been more receptive". He denied that the Liberal leader had been trying to browbeat his party by threatening to resign if he did not get his way.

However Mr Steel remains adamant that the Liberals must agree with their SDP partners, who have seized their own policy, that an Alliance government would be prepared to replace Polaris if arms negotiations do not succeed. This is the same formula on which he was defeated at the assembly.



Mr Hughes (left), Mr Steel, Mr Wallace and Mr Wilson at the Liberal leader's home (Photograph: Tom Kidd).

The Liberal leadership has still not decided on a final policy line, or how that line will be endorsed by the party. The question will be discussed by the party's policy committee tomorrow, then by its defence panel and finally by the 19 Liberal MPs. The national executive will meet at the end of next week to decide whether there should be a one-day party assembly to endorse the policy.

Mr Steel believes that it would be sufficient for the party's policy committee, the body responsible for setting such questions between assemblies, to agree to the policy.

But he is relaxed about the prospect of staging a special assembly. Party officials are confident that Mr Steel would be able to carry the day, especially since he lost by only 28 votes at Eastbourne.

Mr Wilson said they had decided that it was right to proceed cautiously and by the agreed party machinery, although they were also agreed that the sooner they could sort out a defence policy and concentrate on issues such as the economy the better it would be.

Mr Davies said that a Labour government would do what it could to change Nato's strategy, in particular its reliance on nuclear weapons, but even if those policies were not changed "we're not coming out of Nato. We'll stay".

He confirmed, however, that a Labour government would remove battlefield nuclear weapons in Europe, arguing that such weapons,

causing an explosion a thousand times greater than that of the Chernobyl disaster, were no defence.

It was the same with nuclear depth charges, he said. They would destroy our own ships in the process of destroying the enemy.

● Russian advances in Star Wars-style defences could mean Britain's Trident missile submarines will have an effective life of only five years after entering service in 1995, according to Captain John Moore, editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships*, and Commander Richard Compton-Hall, director of the Submarine Museum, in a new book, *Submarine Warfare, Today and Tomorrow*.

They argue that the £10 billion being spent on Trident could be better used on other projects.

'US link in Neave murder'

Powell claim called fantasy

By Robin Oakley and Richard Ford

An apparent accusation by Mr Enoch Powell that the United States was behind the murder of Mr Airey Neave in a car bombing at the House of Commons in 1979 was yesterday dismissed in Whitehall as pure fantasy.

Although Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP, urged the Home Secretary to conduct an inquiry into Mr Powell's suggestion, most MPs - even those who normally have some sympathy for Mr Powell on other questions - dismissed his claim as the product of an increasingly fevered conspiracy theorist.

Most politicians are now familiar with Mr Powell's long argued belief that some kind of sinister deal was struck between the Americans and the British Government, designed to move Ireland from its neutralist position to membership of Nato, and that this explains the British Government's lack of sympathy with the Ulster Unionist cause and the steady moves towards the Anglo-Irish agreement.

But none could recall him taking it quite this far before. Mr Humphrey Atkins, former Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said last night: "Enoch Powell's latest outburst in support of his obsessive belief that the British Government will do absolutely anything to hand over

the province to the Republic of Ireland is the wildest and most disgraceful yet."

"It is such a pity that he cannot see that Airey Neave's assassination united everyone - government and people alike, in a determination that violence should not succeed in its objectives."

In his speech at Birmingham on Saturday, Mr Powell, the Ulster Unionist member for South Down, said that the first move in the conspiracy had been to sweep away the stumbling block of Ulster Unionist government in Northern Ireland.

"M16 and their friends proved equal to the job and in 1969 active commitment of the Army in Ulster subordinated Stormont to Whitehall."

When the Conservatives were about to take office, however, according to Mr Powell, there were doubts about whether they would go along with the scheme.

"The roadblock was cleared by eliminating Airey Neave on the verge of his taking office."

The strategic importance or otherwise of the Irish Republic to the Western alliance is a frequent question raised in discussions on the problems facing the north and south of the island.

Mr Powell believes the republic is of such importance to it that the United States

wants a united Ireland on condition that it abandons neutrality and joins Nato.

In the republic Mr Charles Haughey, the opposition leader, also suspects that his country has strategic value to Nato while in Western defence circles there is debate between those believing it is of importance and others who argue that modern technology has rendered the republic practically obsolete for Nato purposes.

Irish neutrality, a dormant political issue in the republic, is backed by more than two-thirds of voters and any hint that it is being eroded by the country's involvement in Europe raises suspicion and controversy.

Some suspect a future government may abandon neutrality and either enter Nato or conclude a defence arrangement with Britain as part of a price for a united Ireland.

The keen awareness of Ireland's position is a critical argument for those wishing it to be a full member of the Western alliance as they believe Nato's western flank is exposed because of Irish neutrality.

Some say it provides a possible back door for the launch of a Soviet attack on Europe and that its inclusion in Nato would give additional strength to radar warning systems.

Panorama settlement

BBC costs 'could have exceeded £1m'

By Jonathan Miller
Media Correspondent

The decision of the BBC Board of Governors to settle out of court the *Panorama* libel action brought by two Conservative MPs came amidst indications that the final cost of defending the case to its conclusion could have exceeded £1 million.

Friends of Mr Neil Hamilton, MP for Tatton, Cheshire, and Mr Gerald Howarth, MP for Cannock and Burntwood in Staffordshire, said last week that they expected their legal bill to exceed £300,000.

The MPs were said to be confident that they would more than recoup their invest-

ment in the suit against the BBC, whose programme, "Maggie's Militant Tendency", had alleged that they were among a group of Conservative politicians holding extremist and racist views.

Legal observers suggested that the BBC's costs could well have equalled or exceeded those of the plaintiffs.

Had the case gone against the BBC, damages of just £100,000 to each of the two politicians would have brought the corporation's final bill to about £1 million.

Under the circumstances, the BBC decided to follow what has become a fairly routine procedure for news

organizations in similar battles, and seek to settle the case before the legal costs grew out of control.

It was clear before the latest case went to trial that the BBC was less than fully confident of its prospects for success. A separate writ against the *Panorama* programme, issued by Mr Roger Moore, Conservative MP for Faversham, was settled a year ago for costs and a "suitable donation" to a charity of Mr Moore's choice.

Other recent libel cases involving the corporation have included:

April, 1985: the BBC was embarrassed when an 87-day High Court libel case brought

by a Harley Street doctor ended with the court ordering it to pay costs of £900,000, and £75,000 damages.

February, 1984: the BBC won an action brought against it by Mr Derek Jameson, the former editor of *Daily Star*, who said he had been libelled by a sketch in the Radio Four programme *Week Ending*. Mr Jameson's costs were said to be £75,000.

June 1984: the BBC agreed to pay substantial damages in a case brought by Bird's Eye, the frozen food company over a BBC-2 programme which implied that the company's "100 per cent" beefburgers contained only 80 per cent of meat.



The Asbach Story

It could easily be argued that Ruedesheim is the gateway to that most beautiful part of the River Rhine with its vineyards and castles.

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The Great Brandy from the Romantic Rhine

Women solicitors 'still finding it difficult' to obtain partnerships

Women solicitors are still finding it difficult to obtain partnerships, although more than ever before are breaking into the legal profession, according to a survey published this week.

Women account for 40 per cent of all entrants yet the majority are employed as assistant solicitors rather than partners. A total of 1,000 women solicitors were interviewed in the survey, which described the trend as "disturbing". The results disclose that 31 per cent are equity partners, compared

with 50 per cent employed as assistant solicitors. Another 12 per cent were salaried partners.

But as the majority only entered the profession during the past six years, it is too early to say that discrimination is the reason for the anomaly.

The survey, published in the *Law Society Gazette*, coincides with new statistics from the society showing that while women are still concentrated in the lower ranks, the number of partners is rising.

The increase was 50 per cent in the year up to 1985, and the latest total is 1,400 compared with 20,600 men.

But the statistics also show a dramatic increase in women assistant solicitors: in 1984/85 the proportion was one in three compared with one in four the year before.

One explanation is that more women are returning to work. The increase in women with practising certificates exceeds that for those admitted onto the roll. "This is highly suggestive of women returning to private practice or at least seeking to do so," the society says.

It appears that many women have not become partners because they have taken time off to have children and returned to their careers at a later stage.

But the survey dispels the myth that women stay away for long periods to have children, and that they are forced to specialize in fields such as family law or conveyancing.

For those who take maternity leave rather than a longer break in their careers, the average time off is 5.24 months, and 2.43 months for those who are partners. Most returned to the same job but only half to the same hours.

Litigation is the favourite specialization for women, followed by probate and trust work. The survey says that this could be because trust work is more easily combined with flexible hours.

For women under 35 the picture is very different: litigation is still popular but many are moving into new areas previously closed to them, such as shipping litigation, building or property. A number are also specializing in company commercial work.

Peer calls on lawyers to settle court rights

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitors and barristers were urged to end their dispute over rights of audience in the courts in a plea by Lord Mishcon, the Labour peer, at the Law Society conference at the weekend.

Lord Mishcon told solicitors at their annual meeting in Torquay that he and his colleagues were not helped in their parliamentary efforts when legislation affecting the profession was being passed in "what appears to be an unreasonably conflict".

He said that where possible the profession should present a united front in the face of difficulties that confronted both branches. A public debate over rights of audience was "not generally regarded as particularly serious, nor is it regarded as a contest which has as its main element the interest of the lay client".

Lord Mishcon told the conference on Saturday that such a debate appeared as a "quar-

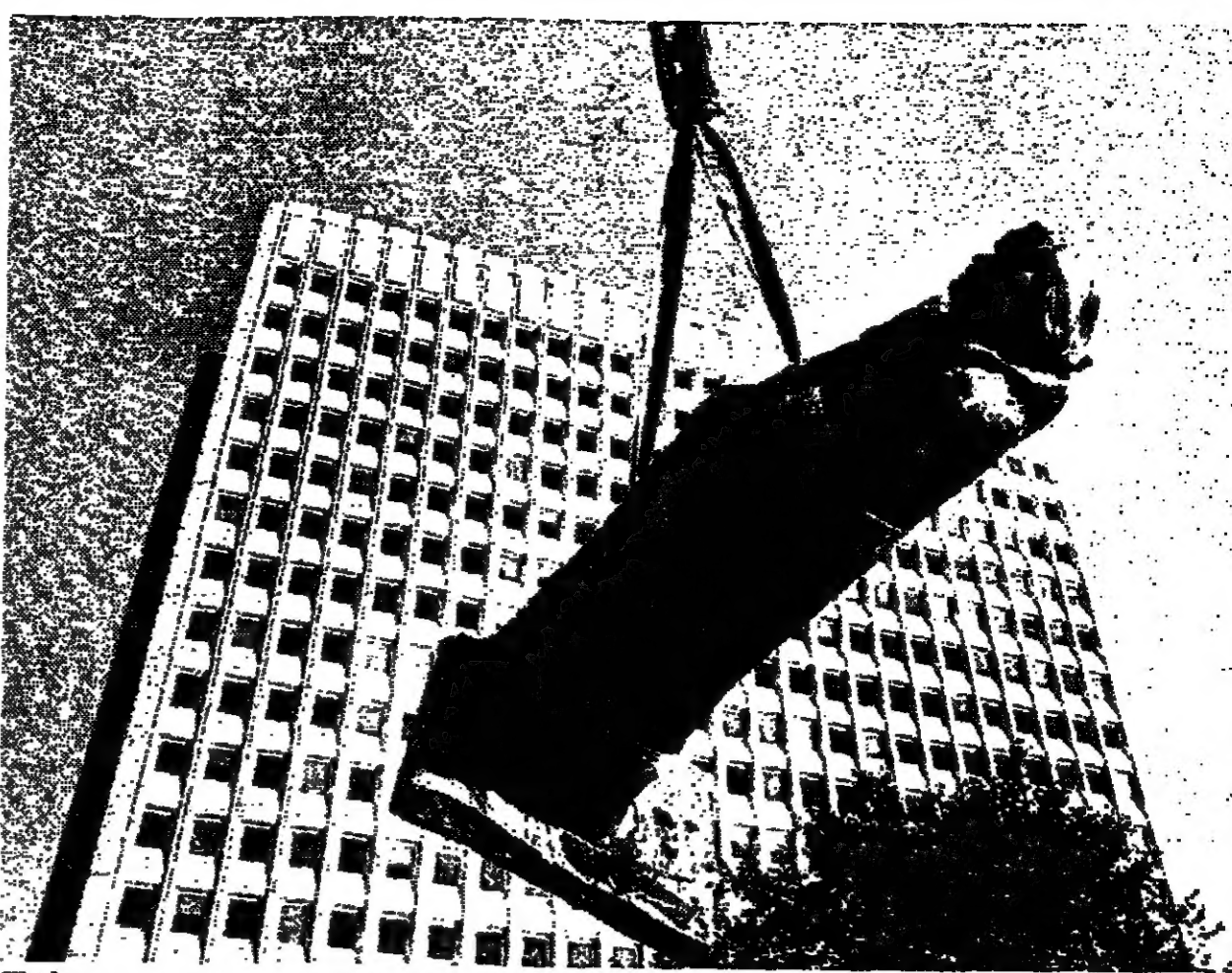
rel about monopoly rights, with each party fighting for its own material interests".

He also gave a warning of the lowering of professional standards which might come from proceeding too far with advertising. Solicitors would effectively be led into taking clients from each other, and becoming no different from "market traders".

He urged solicitors to call a halt to further advertising, whatever the pressures under the "guise of competition and what is said to be consumer protection".

Before long solicitors would be boasting, not only that they could do their work better than a colleague, but more cheaply. Doctors in the same way might find themselves advertising their consulting fees, or surgeons their fees for operations.

"Once you open these dike, the erosion of professional standards as we know them cannot be prevented," Lord Mishcon said.



The huge bronze "Monument to Balzac", by Auguste Rodin - popularly known as Balzac in his Dressing Gown - which normally stands outside the Kodak headquarters in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, is being temporarily removed to the Hayward Gallery, London for a Rodin exhibition which opens in two weeks (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

Savage call to improve maternity services

Mrs Wendy Savage, the birth rights campaigner, yesterday urged obstetricians, midwives and women to unite to improve maternity services.

"The establishment of a study group by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists might enable women to voice their requests in a forum which could lead to change," she said.

Mrs Savage makes the call in a book in which she attacks as a "terrible waste of NHS funds" her suspension from the London Hospital, east London, and the inquiry into

allegations of incompetence.

She said that relations between GPs and obstetricians had been damaged, women had not had the same choice, especially if they wanted to see a woman obstetrician, and the reputation of the hospital, the medical school and the doctors involved had suffered.

The book, published 10 days after Mrs Savage returned to work after being cleared of incompetence, tells of the manoeuvres which led to her 15-month suspension.

A *Savage Inquiry - Who Controls Childbirth?* (Virago Press, £2.95).

Horizon offers cheap holidays in Majorca

Horizon, one of the three largest tour operators, enters the latest cut-price holiday war today, reducing the price of 50,000 holidays in Majorca by 10 per cent.

The company is cutting the cost of holidays at the resort next summer by up to £40, after Thomson Holidays offered a million low-cost holidays in the sun, through its subsidiary, Skytours.

The discount covers 50,000 holidays featured in its two brochures, Summer Sun and Villas and Apartments. The holidays must be booked before the end of December, and

taken between May 1 and June 25.

Anyone who has already booked for Majorca during this period will also receive the discount.

Mr David Cockerton, managing director, said that Horizon sold 200,000 holidays during the first week of the launch of its brochures out of a total of one million holidays it will offer in 1987.

An offer of 1,000 holidays in Majorca and Ibiza at 1966 prices of £53 for two weeks, was sold out within 20 minutes, Horizon said.

Sugar 'no danger to health or weight'

An official United States report which claims that sugar does not make people fat or damage their health is being studied by Government health leaders.

The report, the most comprehensive ever undertaken, was carried out by a medical taskforce set up by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The taskforce found that while sugar does contribute to tooth decay, "there is no conclusive evidence that it is a hazard to the general public".

Dr Allan Forbes, of the FDA in Washington, said: "We can now state categorically that there is no evidence at all to link sugar with obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, hyperactivity or heart disease".

The Government is expected to announce soon the members of its own committee of inquiry into sugar, part of the Committee on the Medical Aspects of Food (Coma).

A Coma report published in 1982 said it saw no reason to reduce sugar consumption in Britain. However a report by the unofficial National Advisory Committee on Nutritional Education, published a year earlier, said consumption should be reduced.

Annual United Kingdom sugar consumption is about 80lb per person.

Mr Charles Lange, chairman of the Sugar Bureau, which represents sugar manufacturers, said: "The report confirms what we have known for a very long time, that sugar is safe and does not cause any diseases, other than contributing to dental decay along with other carbohydrates."

Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said: "What we have always said is that there is no such thing as one particular bad food. It is how much you eat of it."

New leads in £26m gold raid

By Our Crime Reporter

New arrests and raids are expected in the next few days by Scotland Yard detectives leading the hunt for the gold and valuables taken in the £26-million Brinks-Mat robbery.

Police now suspect that bullion from the robbery was converted into cash and moved overseas. They are also investigating the possibility that properties were bought to conceal the money and, in some cases, cash from the proceeds was used as collateral to generate money for legitimate business interests.

Last week a London solicitor and a second man were charged in connection with the assets from the robbery.

Senior officers have forecast that they may be close to a breakthrough in the long-running search for the routes by which gold disappeared.

Since the robbery in November 1983, at a high-security warehouse close to Heathrow Airport, Scotland Yard has been running a big operation to recover stolen gold. Officers from the Flying Squad and other specialist units, including the Yard's criminal intelligence team CII, have been targeting the routes used to launder the gold.

In December 1984 two men were sentenced for their part in the robbery after a security guard at the warehouse admitted helping to arrange the raid and became a key police informant.

Earlier this year Kenneth Noye, a Kent businessman, was given 14 years' imprisonment for his role in disposing of the bullion. Two others were convicted with him.

A series of cases involving other individuals, including Mr John Palmer, a West Country jeweller, are awaiting trial.

British financier key to drug link

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

A British-born financier is living under armed guard in the United States as a key informant in a transatlantic investigation into a multi-million pound network laundering profits from the London underworld and Mafia drug syndicates.

This week in Florida senior members of the Drug Enforcement Agency will unveil the role of the informant, Shaun P. Murphy, a second British financial figure and the story of how a special Scotland Yard team looking at organized crime led the Americans to a potential breakthrough in their fight against drug traffickers.

The Yard team was formed 18 months ago by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Brian Worth and came across a network of shell companies on both sides of the Atlantic as detectives searched for the proceeds from the £26 million Brinks-Mat robbery.

The British investigators have been working in the Isle of Man, the British Virgin Islands and Anguilla. Sworn in locally as special constables some of their travel costs have been met by the Americans because of the value of the work to the Drug Enforcement Agency.

The financial network used to launder criminal profits is believed to include accounts of companies in the City of London, Hong Kong, Singapore, Panama, France and Luxembourg. Detectives have found links between British criminals and organized crime in the US.

Working from material thrown up by the Yard officers in an investigation called Operation Cougar the Americans formed their own taskforce and have uncovered a network which includes Boston, Chicago and New York as well as Florida.

The British operation began in the Isle of Man when a lawyer called Patrick Diamond, aged 37, was arrested on charges of handling stolen money. He was given bail on condition that he helped police and be travelled to Florida with a Yard escort.

In the US he worked undercover with Drug Enforcement Agency men before giving evidence to a grand jury. He was later sentenced to serve nine months in prison and fined £10,000 by an Isle of Man court.

After British police went out to the British Virgin Islands Mr Murphy, aged 33, and managing director of a firm called Financial Management Trust, was charged with assisting in the commission of offences which contravened US drug laws.

Mr Murphy, who began his career as a chartered accountant in the Isle of Man went to the British Virgin Islands in 1977. He was given bail by the local court.

Later the case against him was dropped because he was working with Yard officers.

He was flown out of the islands by the enforcement agency in a chartered aircraft to Florida this summer. Since then he has been living in safe houses under armed guard and working with drugs investigators.

Last week in Florida six men were arrested by drug enforcement men from the American operation on charges involving more than £22 million and 100,000lb of cannabis.

On the British Virgin Islands officers from Scotland Yard have looked at a number of financial institutions in an investigation which has now uncovered hundreds of shell companies and accounts stretching across the world.

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All letters and cards up to 20 gms to the Republic of Ireland will be charged at 18p postage from today. Details of all postage changes can be found in the new Inland and Overseas Postal Rates leaflets - at post offices now.

Good Hotel Guide

Stewed tea at Cliveden

By Tim Jones

An entire chapter of *The Good Hotel Guide, 1987* is devoted to an attack on Cliveden, former home of the Astor family, which this year became the most expensive hotel in Britain outside London. The cheapest rooms cost £150 a night for bed and breakfast.

The growing anti-American bias among hoteliers is also singled out for criticism. Mr Hilary Rubinstein, the editor, says that he experienced this trend at Cliveden. The trend was "as distasteful as anti-Semitism or mindless prejudice against women or blacks or gays".

The man who showed Mr and Mrs Rubinstein to their room volunteered the opinion that Americans were just a lot of trouble. "I have no idea what offences they had perpetrated to cause him to air this prejudice, but if an American visitor had protested vociferously at the kind of inept

service that we experienced that weekend, bully for him!" There is a detailed explanation of why the Rubinsteins did not enjoy their stay at Cliveden, in spite of its glorious location overlooking the Thames.

Their complaints range from stewed and lukewarm tea to overcharging, slow and incompetent service and an intolerably hot hotel room.

Mr Rubinstein adds: "In general, we don't hold with knocking hotels. Our reason for writing at such length about this faulty Rolls-Royce is that the place, like no other British hotel, belongs to no heritage."

The guide, which covers more than 1,100 hotels, guest houses, farmhouse hotels and inns in 20 counties encourages "civil resistance" by anti-service charge campaigners.

The guide names 10 establishments for its César Awards for 1987:

They are Ston Easton Park, Ston Easton, for comprehensive excellence as a luxurious country house hotel; The Castle, Taunton, for best town hotel; St Tsidne Hotel, Llandudno, for best seaside resort hotel; Coopershill, Riverstown, for outstanding Irish country hospitality; Plumber Manor, Sturminster Newton, for sustained excellence in a middle-price country house hotel; Parrock Head Farm, Slaidburn, for best farmhouse hotel; Manor Farm Barn, Taynton, for best rural bed and breakfast; White House Hotel, Here, for best family hotel away from it all; Altnaharra, Ullapool, for sustained excellence in a middle-price country house hotel and Clifton Hotel, Nairn, for utterly acceptable mild eccentricity.

The guide, which covers more than 1,100 hotels, guest houses, farmhouse hotels and inns in 20 counties encourages "civil resistance" by anti-service charge campaigners.

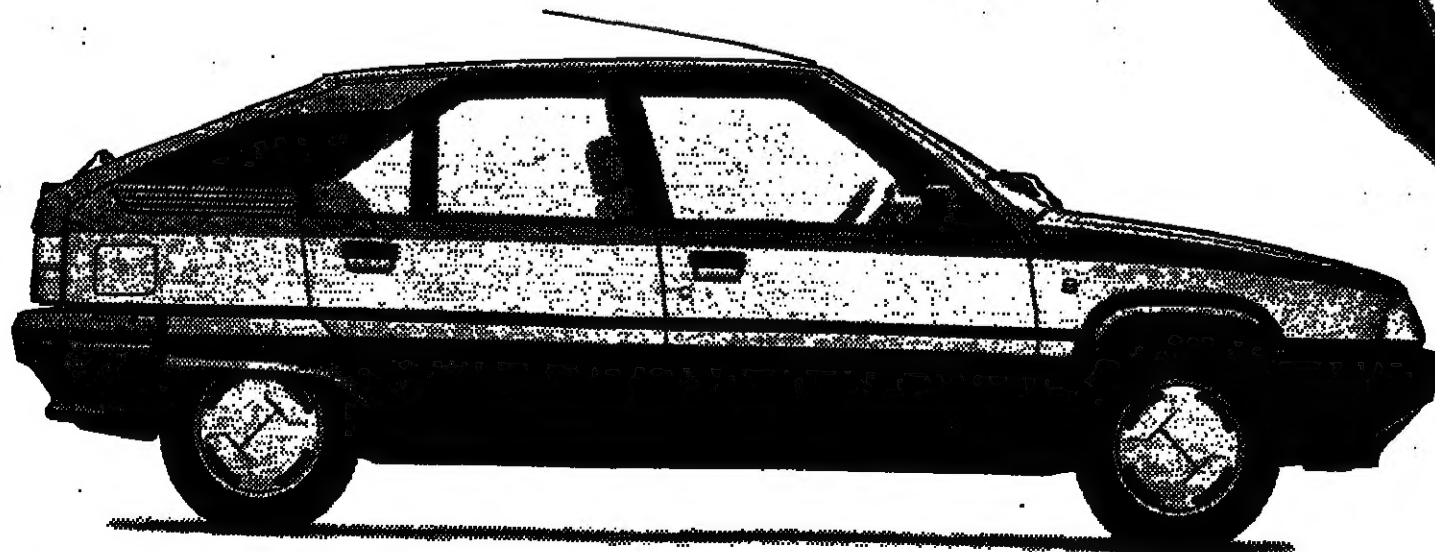
The guide names 10 establishments for its César Awards for 1987:

The guide names 10 establishments for its César Awards for 1987:

The Good Hotel Guide, 1987 (Consumers' Association and Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95).

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MPs launch campaign for 10% increase in housing body funds

By Michael Dynes

A nationwide campaign seeking to increase the level of government spending on the voluntary housing movement will be launched from the House of Commons today by senior politicians from the Conservative, Labour and Alliance parties.

The campaign, led by Mr John Cunningham, the Opposition environment spokesman, is calling for a 10 per cent increase in the Government's budget for housing associations in 1987-88, to enable them to tackle chronic housing problems more effectively.

Accompanying the campaign is the publication of a report by the National Federation of Housing Associations, the central representative and negotiating body for all housing associations, entitled *Housing: a countryside problem*.

The report provides detailed evidence of increasing homelessness, overcrowding and serious disrepair throughout England and Wales, and the need to stimulate the private rented sector as called for by *The Times* in the Home Front campaign.

The report issued a warning

that "if we do not save our older housing, many areas will reach the point where the expensive alternative of demolition is the only answer. If we postpone major repairs now, the cost of modernization later will be far higher."

The report also criticizes last year's decision by the

The report argues that increased funding for stress areas at the expense of the rest of the country fails to acknowledge that in many parts of England and Wales not so designated "housing conditions are equally appalling".

The campaign will be conducted simultaneously from London and eight "non-stress areas" with chronic housing problems, such as Oxford, Durham and Norfolk.

It will also attempt to highlight the consequences of the 30 per cent reduction in funding from the Housing Corporation since 1977, and the 75 per cent reduction in local authority finance for housing associations since 1978.

According to Mr Richard Best, director of the National Federation of Housing Associations, the combined decline in Housing Corporation and local authority funding has meant that approvals for new schemes are down from 61,400 in 1977-78 to 19,700 in 1986-87.

Housing - a countryside problem: National Association of Housing Associations, 175 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1R 4UP



Department of the Environment and the Housing Corporation to concentrate funding for housing associations in 80 key regions such as Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds and London, designated as "stress areas", where the combined effect of urban deprivation, unemployment and racial tension is greatest.

As a result of that decision, 83 per cent of government funding for housing associations now goes to stress areas, while the rest of the country is left with 17 per cent of the total budget, a decline of 10 per cent over previous years.

Cut-backs crisis for private groups

In contrast to our European neighbours, housing associations account for a mere 2.5 per cent of Britain's homes (Michael Dynes writes).

Nevertheless, more than one million people in England and Wales live in about 550,000 homes, all of which have been reclaimed from dereliction or built from scratch by more than 2,000 housing associations.

That laudable achievement stands as a testimony to the efficacy of private initiative and the judicious application of public finance.

Today, however, housing associations are facing crisis. Not only are they unable to satisfy the growing demand for their services from the young, unemployed, single, disabled and elderly, but they also face the prospect of sustaining huge reversals in their housing programmes because of successive annual declines in funding.

In 1982-83 loans from the Housing Corporation, the main source of finance for housing associations, exceeded £927 million. By 1986-87 that figure had fallen to £660 million.

The decline in local authority loans has been equally severe, from £456 million in 1977-78 to £111 million in 1986-87, more than 75 per cent in 10 years.

As Mr Richard Best, director of the National Federation of Housing Associations, is at pains to point out, "because so much money goes to projects already being built, the cuts have been made on future building and rehabilitation programmes."

Consequently, the number of new homes that can be provided by housing associations has shrunk drastically. Since 1982-83 they have had to reduce their programmes by 30 per cent in real terms, which has meant a decline from 40,000 to 20,000 new housing projects each year.

Putting a price on lord of the manor

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

For people who cannot afford to buy the manor house of their choice, the title of Lord of the Manor comes more cheaply, and a forthcoming sale offers no less than 85 lordships.

The sale of lordships has become big business in recent years, with rare and historic titles fetching more than £250,000. Most are no more than a set of documents which cannot be exported and have to remain in safekeeping.

International interest is keen nevertheless, and the sale in London on November 11 is expected to yield some high prices, particularly for five manors in the Irish Republic, which are believed to be the first Irish titles to be offered for many years. They belong to Lord Gormanston, head of the ancient Anglo-Irish family of Preston that originated in Lancashire in the thirteenth century.

The five on offer are the Barony of Kells in Co. Kilkenny, granted to Earl Strongbow by Henry II in 1169, Herbardeston, Batscadden and Ballymaddon in Co. Dublin, and Maydon-hayes in Co. Meath. They include one of the oldest documents in the sale, dating back to 1173. Interest in these is expected to come from the United Kingdom and the United States, Canada and the Continent.

The other titles come from England and Wales, and the highest price is likely for the

Lordship of Snodhill, which has a ruined castle and includes about four acres of land.

There is one of particular interest to American buyers. The Lordship of Hingham in Norfolk was once owned by King Athelstan (921-941), but is more notable as the original home of the family of Abraham Lincoln, who emigrated to New England early in the seventeenth century.

The Lordship of Kerdston, also in Norfolk, has connections with the poet Geoffrey Chaucer, and gives the owner the right to hold a market. It has records showing the continuous descent of lords from 1100.

Prices for the titles will start at £6,000, and the owners are entitled to call themselves lord or lady of the manor, apply for a coat of arms, and have their title inserted in their passports, stationery, cutlery and car.

Lordships of the manor date back to Saxon times, and the system survived until the 1920s when the tenancies granted by lords of the manor were made into freeholds in the hands of the tenants.

At the same time the lord of the manor, who held his title direct from the Crown, was deprived of most of his ancient rights and privileges, which ranged from the right to extract minerals to *droit de seigneur*, under which the lord had the right to appropriate any village maiden in his lordship on her wedding night.



A child watches the Thames flood barrier at Woolwich yesterday, when it was closed for a quarterly full-day test (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Single pension expected to rise by 80p a week

By Jill Sherman

A 2.1 per cent rise in pensions and other social security benefits to take effect from next April, is expected to be announced shortly.

The rise will increase the basic state pension for a single person by about 80p, from the present £38.70 a week. It will reflect the 2.1 per cent rise in the retail price index from January to September, announced last Friday, and comes after an interim 1.1 per cent increase last July.

Pensions for married couples will rise by at least £1.30, from the present £61.95, having risen by 65p in July.

The two-stage increase is the result of a change from November to April in the timing of the annual benefit uprating, as part of the new social security reforms.

The Government is legally bound to raise pensions and some other benefits in line with the retail price index. But this year, because of the two-stage increase, pensioners will get marginally more than the 3 per cent annual rise in prices.

Supplementary benefit rates, calculated on a slightly different basis, are expected to rise by 60p from £29.80 for a single person, and by 95p to £49.55 for a couple.

Pensioners' organizations have condemned the projected rises as inadequate and say they fail to reflect the 10.5 per cent rise in earnings.

But a spokesman for the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that the rises always reflected the rate of inflation.

Cold weather pay plan 'unworkable'

Government proposals to pay £5 a week to the elderly on low incomes to help with heating bills during severe weather were criticized yesterday by Age Concern, the pensioners' organization.

The organization claimed that the scheme was unworkable because the fall in temperatures needed to bring the benefit into operation was unrealistic, affecting only select parts of Britain.

Under the proposals, payments will be made to the elderly on supplementary benefit if, in a seven-day period, the average temperature falls below minus 1.5 centigrade.

Age Concern said that Meteorological Office figures show that last February, the coldest for 40 years, only two thirds of Britain would have

benefited from severe weather payments.

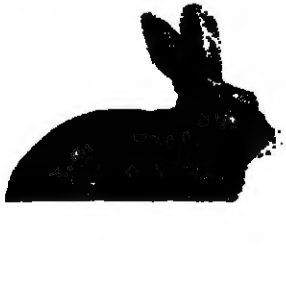
Large areas of Wales, the South-west and North-east did not fall below minus 1.5 degrees.

Mr David Hobman, director of Age Concern England, said: "Severe weather should be declared over the whole country when it is cold rather than relying on scientific data which will be grossly unjust in its operation. The Government claims its new system is fairer. Age Concern believes it will simply be cheaper."

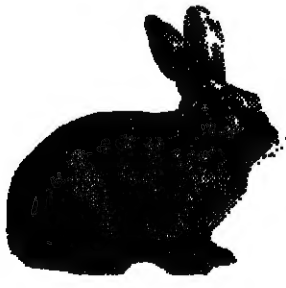
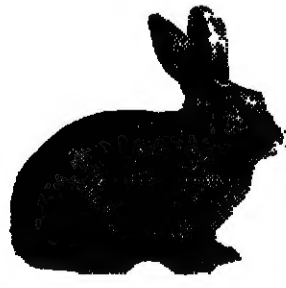
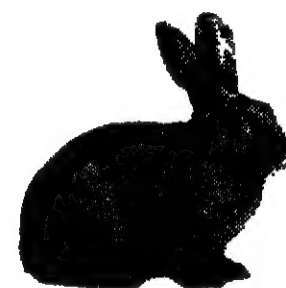
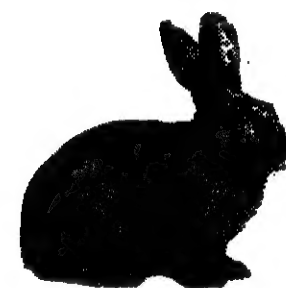
Last winter, help with heating bills was left to local discretion.

OUR GROWTH RATE IS WORTH RABBITING ON ABOUT.

1980
450,000 POLICIES



1986
1 MILLION POLICIES



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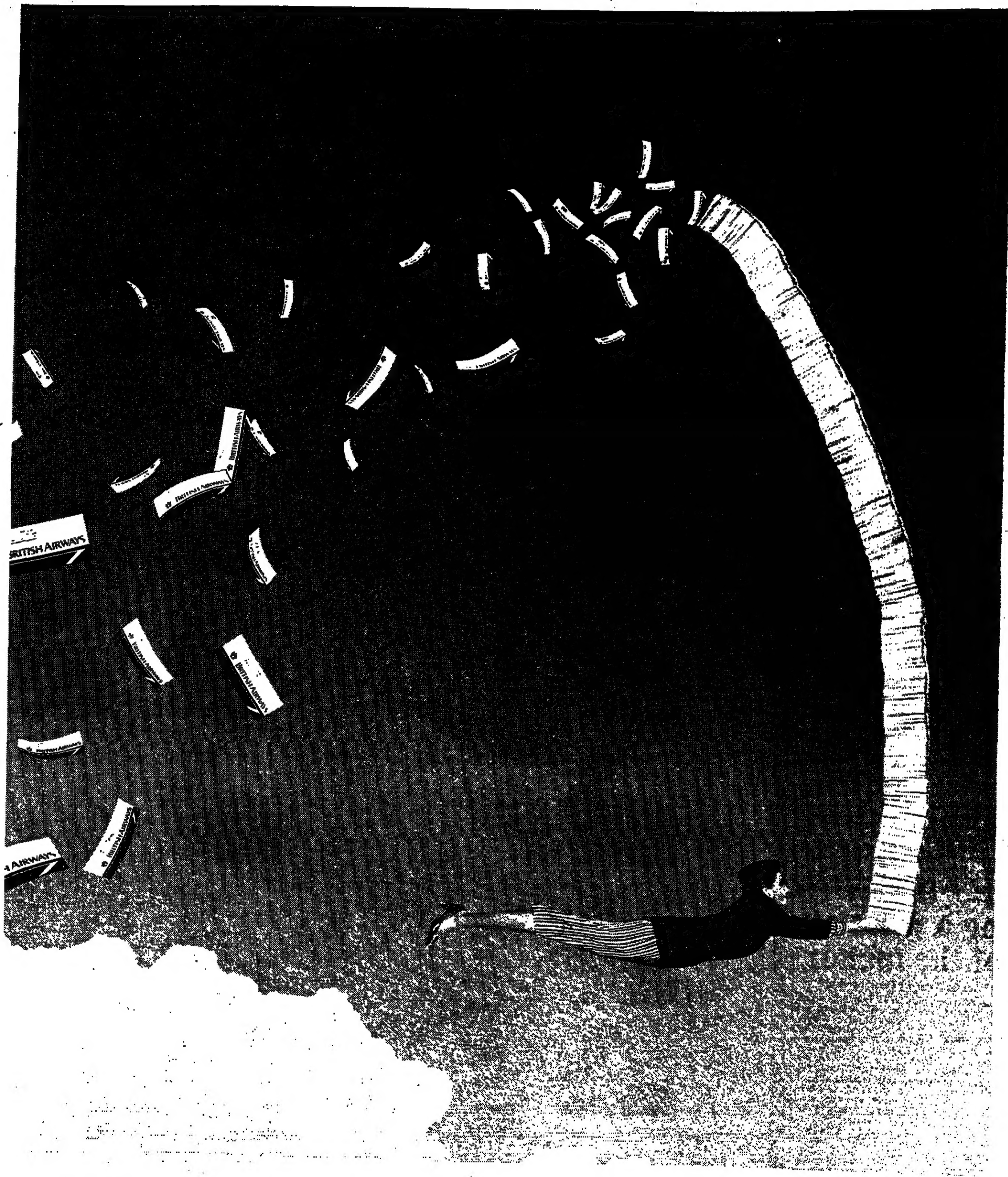
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Students set to discuss boycott of lecturer who wrote for The Times

By Howard Foster

Oxford University students are meeting this week to discuss the case of Mr David Selbourne, the Ruskin College lecturer who for the last six months has been boycotted for writing an article for *The Times*.

Mr Selbourne is taking the trade union-affiliated institution to court because it refuses to give him a written commitment to academic freedom over his treatment by fellow lecturers and students after he wrote the article for *The Times*.

Such is the concern about issues raised by the Selbourne affair that Mr George Walden, the minister for higher education, has written to the college seeking an explanation for its actions. Ruskin's academic advisers, who are drawn from the Oxford colleges, are also to hold a meeting to decide their approach to the situation.

What has come under the closest scrutiny is Ruskin's standing as an academic body and its relationship with the trade unions which form its executive council.

Mr Selbourne's troubles started at the beginning of last summer term when students began boycotting his lectures because they claimed he had "scabbed" by contributing an article on the Militant tendency in Liverpool in *The Times* on March 26, the last day of the previous term.

Since June he has sought and has been denied a specific commitment to academic freedom and although most teaching staff at Ruskin had expected a gradual subsidence of feeling on the matter, Mr Selbourne now finds himself having to relinquish his post at a college where he has taught for 20 years. Because the matter is in the hands of lawyers, official comment at

Ruskin is scarce but there is certainly no shortage of private expression of concern.

Although the Selbourne affair is only now the subject of a debate at the Oxford University Students' Union on Wednesday, this is not, according to the motion's sponsors, a reflection of intellectual apathy among the colleges.

"The new term is still young and many people just have not heard of the Selbourne case," Mr Andrew Adonis, a Jesus

College lecturer and proposer of a condemnatory motion at the students' union, said. "As time goes on, the issue becomes more widely discussed. What people are asking is whether Mr Selbourne's rights to express himself how and where he likes are being protected. It is a vital issue. Ruskin may not officially be part of the university but it uses the facilities and is a valid cause for concern."

The university's Hebdomadal Council has already met and discussed the Selbourne case. Although its members met in private, there is no secret that fears were expressed about the cherished ideal of the freedom of the academic to write where he likes.

Professor AH Halsey, of Nuffield College, sits on the Hebdomadal Council and is also one of Ruskin's academic advisers. Although confined

to bed at present with flu he has been following the Selbourne debate closely and will meet his fellow advisers to discuss how the Ruskin authorities are handling the affair very soon.

Professor Halsey said: "I am unhappy about the situation. I believe it is the first time that such an issue has come up at Ruskin."

"The educational advisers will meet and our concern will be to advise Ruskin as to what it should do."

One of the chief student instigators of action against Mr Selbourne was Mr John Austin. Ironically, Mr Selbourne taught him and even gave Mr Austin a reference to enable him to start his studies in politics, philosophy and economics at St Peter's this term.

Mr Austin accused Mr Selbourne of "scabbing" by writing the article in *The Times* and helped to organize the boycott which left the lecturer with empty rooms during the summer term.

Mr Austin said: "Selbourne offended people's sensibilities by writing in *The Times*. 'Academic freedom is an important issue but so is the feeling of people who come to Ruskin with strong trade union convictions and who take it very personally when one of the lecturers writes in a newspaper which is the subject of trade union action.'"

Mr Austin called on Mr Selbourne to "repent or resign". In fact, Mr Selbourne has left the college claiming that it has repudiated his contract by making conditions for his teaching intolerable.

The controversy has raised questions of the academic standing of Ruskin College.



Ruskin College, Oxford (top), Mr Andrew Adonis (above left) and Mr David Selbourne, the Ruskin lecturer at the centre of an argument over academic freedom.

Asbestos waste site standards criticized

By Angella Johnson

A waste disposal company has been criticized for "imperfections" in its management of an asbestos waste dump in Hertfordshire.

A report calls for big improvements in health and safety at the toxic waste site run by Cleanaway (UK) at Broomborough Park Quarry, Cock Lane, Huddersdon. These are necessary, the report states, if the company is to continue dumping asbestos waste at the pit.

The 11 recommendations include tighter security to stop children climbing into the quarry and playing on the asbestos waste; soaking the waste and the tipping area with water before the waste is discharged; regular inspections by council officials; a thorough cleaning of lorries before they leave the site; improved supervision of the operation and a comprehensive monitoring system.

Hertfordshire County Council commissioned the £4,500 report in September after a public protest against the dumping of 100,000 tonnes of asbestos-contaminated building rubble near a special school and a large housing estate.

The report, by Dr John Cook, an independent consultant scientist at Harwell Laboratories in Oxfordshire, said that the site was no danger to public health if the improvements were made.

The report will be considered at a special council planning meeting on October 27.

Cleanaway, of Brentwood, Essex, has voluntarily stopped the movement of asbestos waste to the site until the planning committee makes its decision. So far about 35,000 tonnes of the waste have been buried at the dump.

Local buses: 1

Roads opened up to competition in radical reform

A week from now the Transport Act 1985 will come into effect, and competition is intended to sweep through local bus services. But will it? Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent, considers the prospects

Britain's local bus services, outside London, on which over four billion passenger journeys are made each year, next Sunday begin their most radical shake-up for 50 years.

It is hoped that it will reverse the trend which has seen the bus share of total travel fall from 39 per cent to 8 per cent over the past 30 years. Until now there has been virtually no competition on bus routes because any change of route or challenge to an existing operator had to be specifically approved, usually against the opposition of the operator. In practice applications were generally rejected.

But from October 26 competition is to be encouraged, and after a three-month initial period any bus-owner who can meet safety requirements will be able to operate on any route he chooses.

That is the date on which the bus-regulation provisions of the 1985 Traffic Act take effect. These are designed to improve services to travellers and to reduce the £500 million subsidies which are paid on unprofitable services.

Local bus services are divided into two groups, those that are profitable and those that are subsidized.

As part of a process of phasing in competition, those who wanted to operate profitable routes from next Sunday had to register their plans by the end of last February, and 1,500 operators, including about 200 new ones, did so.

The Department of Transport estimates that those plans

accounted for about 70 per cent of all existing routes. The remainder of the routes are the subsidized ones.

All summer prospective operators have been bidding for subsidies for operating particular routes, with the local authorities, who will pay the subsidy generally awarding the contract to the operator who sought the lowest subsidy.

Operators have known for eight months which of the profitable, or registered routes they would be working, but decision-taking on the subsidized routes has been continuing right up to the last moment.

Although in Glasgow, where operators jumped the gun by starting their services some weeks ago, there have been queues of competing buses on central roads, the general impression in the industry is that in most places the impact of competition initially will not be dramatic.

The shire counties are said to be finding that they are able to negotiate services on the basis of subsidies that are up to 25 per cent less than they had expected.

The experience of the passenger transport executives in the large conurbations is more varied, with subsidy reductions said to be varying between about 10 and 50 per cent. Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, claimed on Friday that the savings to ratepayers would be "massive."

Tomorrow: All change

Editor 'wrong' to give in to pressure

Mr Donald Treford, editor of *The Observer*, was wrong to give in to a demand by print workers not to publish a book review by Mr Bernard Levin, the Press Council said yesterday.

It upheld a complaint by Mr Ronald Spark, of The Rotings, Rottingdean, Brighton, that it was improper of the editor of *The Observer* to suppress the review.

Print workers at *The Observer* had refused to produce the newspaper if the editor tried to print the review by Mr Levin of a biography of Augustus Hare, a Victorian eccentric.

They objected to his review because Mr Levin also worked for *The Times* with which their union, the National Graphical Association, was in dispute.

Mr Treford said there was no question in his mind or the management's that the machine room chapel could be persuaded to drop its ban on Mr Levin. That was the weekend of bitter clashes on the picket line at Wapping, where *The Times* was printed.

The editor understood the print workers' position. He knew, too, as he told the Press Council, that because his own newspaper would shortly announce its own new printing arrangements good relations with its printers were particularly necessary at that time.

The loss of revenue if *The Observer* failed to appear that week would be more than £700,000.

The Press Council in its adjudication said it was understandable that Mr Treford should decide that

his duty was to bring the paper out.

The Press Council, however, believed that decision was wrong. It reiterated its view that the freedom of the press depended essentially on the right of an editor to exercise an unfettered and independent discretion about what he should or should not publish.

It believed that when an editor bowed to pressure or threats from any source, he weakened the position of any editor of any newspaper who might face such a threat.

The Press Council understood the problem an editor faced at a critical time when his choice was between removing matter which in his judgement should appear in his paper or risking that his paper would not appear at all. It believed, however, that the principle of press freedom required an editor in those circumstances not to yield to the demand to remove matter from his paper despite the consequent cost, and that he should be supported by his proprietor.

The complaint against *The Observer* was upheld.

It was not unreasonable or improper for two columnists of *The Sunday Telegraph* to describe the Westland helicopter company as "insignificant" and "pint-sized" in the context of the political issue they were discussing, the Press Council said.

It rejected a complaint by Mr L Harris, a former Westland employee, of Grosvenor Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Reforms to ease court reporting are sought

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Newspaper editors are to ask the Home Office to take action over court practices which are restricting free reporting of trials.

At a meeting with Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, tomorrow, the Guild of British Newspaper Editors will table a "shopping list" of reforms.

In particular they want action on:

- Courts withholding the identities of dead children;
- Coroners holding inquests without notifying the press;
- Crown courts failing to release the addresses of defendants; and
- Judges not giving guidance on identifying rapists.

The guild is particularly keen to stop what it sees as the increasing misuse of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 to protect the identity of children.

The provisions of the Act give courts a discretionary power to make orders banning publication of details which may identify a child.

But in the absence of any guidance from the Home Office or Lord Chancellor's Department, courts are imposing orders with the effect that defendants in some

cases of child battering or even death cannot be identified.

The guild maintains that a number of these orders are not valid according to legal advice it has obtained, and in a number of cases newspapers have persuaded magistrates to rescind the orders made.

The editors also want the Home Office to insist that venues and times of coroners' inquests be given to the press in advance.

Editors also want action over some crown courts which fail to release the addresses of defendants. As a result some cases are not reported because insufficient identifying detail is available.

Finally, editors are concerned about identifying rapists. Where the defendant is the victim's husband, should he be named but the relationship obscured, or should he continue to have the privilege of anonymity?

They want the Home Office to include guidelines in its forthcoming Criminal Justice Bill that might prevent one newspaper from acting differently from another. The Government has already promised to remove defendants' anonymity in rape cases in that Bill.



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R A C E B R E D F O R T H E R O A D

WORLD SUMMARY

Mass expulsion after drug arrests

Paris (AFP) — France has expelled 101 Malians, three-quarters of them arrested for drug smuggling, border police said.

They said the total also included Malians who had refused to leave the country after being formally expelled by French courts. Further expulsions would follow, the police added.

The Malians were driven to Orly airport in police vans and put on a plane chartered by the French Interior Ministry and bound for Bamako, the Malian capital.

Witnesses said several of the Malians were forcibly taken aboard after protesting that they would be victims of repression if they returned to Mali.

Aliens Bill backed

Washington — The most far-reaching revision of United States immigration laws in 20 years has received final Congressional approval and will be signed into law by President Reagan (Christopher Thomas writes).

The landmark legislation, already approved by the House of Representatives, was approved by the Senate by 63 votes to 24. It prohibits the hiring of illegal aliens and gives amnesty to millions of illegal immigrants who have lived continuously in the US since before January 1, 1982.

Ershad sets date

Dhaka — General Hussain Muhammad Ershad, who had a landslide election victory last week, will be sworn in as the country's third directly-elected president on Wednesday, official sources said (Ahmed Fazl writes).

Aides said most members of the 25-member council of ministers would be retained, with three ministers appointed from among independent MPs.

Tanker toll rises

Abu Dhabi (Reuters) — The charred bodies of five more crew members of the Panama-flag tanker Five Brooks, which was attacked by Iran in the Strait of Hormuz on Thursday, have been found in the ship. Shipping sources said that the discovery brought the confirmed death toll to 10.

The number of deaths is the worst on a civilian ship caught up in the Gulf War since 16 died in the tanker Azarad, which was destroyed in an Iraqi air raid on Sirri Island oil terminal in August. The Five Brooks victims were all from Pakistan or the Maldives.

Summit offer forces Nato to ponder nuclear balance issue

From Frederick Bonmart, Brussels

The nuclear balance in Europe will be the main concern of Nato's defence ministers meeting at Ginegales tomorrow and Wednesday.

They will consider the significance of the solution proposed at the Reykjavik summit of a complete withdrawal of all intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) from Europe and their reduction to 100 warheads each in Soviet Asia and the United States.

All defence ministers of the Nato member countries, except Iceland and France, participate in this regular six-monthly meeting of the nuclear planning group.

General Bernard Rogers, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, the other two major Nato commanders, as well as the chiefs of defence staffs and the chairman of the Nato military committee, will also be present. Attendance at this highly secret gathering is restricted, and to enable participants to exchange ideas freely no records are kept.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defence, will brief his colleagues about the summit, a senior Nato official said, as well as about the Geneva arms control negotiations.

"The Europeans are very interested in an INF agreement, but its conclusion must not create new instability from missiles of shorter range," a senior European diplomat at Nato said.

He was referring to new, highly mobile SS 21, SS 22

and SS 23 missiles which can hit Western Europe from East Germany, Czechoslovakia and the western Soviet Union.

General Rogers, who was reported to have protested to Mr Weinberger about inadequate consultation concerning the proposed INF agreement, said last week that, if a zero solution were reached with the longer-range missiles, "that needed to be coupled with an attempt to strike a balance on conventional forces as well as on shorter-range INF forces".

He will give a progress report to the Ginegales meeting on the reduction of the nuclear stockpile in Europe. The nuclear planning group had decided to reduce it from 6,000 warheads to 4,600 by the end of 1988.

All Nike/Hercules nuclear air defence missiles and man-portable atomic demolition munitions have been phased out. "The stockpile is at its lowest level for 20 years and will continue to go down," the Nato official said.

Weinberger denies general's Reykjavik claim

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, on Saturday refuted claims by a Nato general who claimed to have been inadequately consulted on the Reykjavik summit.

He answered accusations made by General Hans-Joachim Mack in the name of General Bernard Rogers, the



Mr Jim Wright (Democrat-Texas), holding a whispered conversation with the Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Mr Thomas 'Tip' O'Neill, during a Democratic press conference.

After 10 turbulent years in one of the hottest seats in American politics, the Speaker has retired. As the final House session ended, he banged the gavel for order, without result, as members of both parties spontaneously began clapping and cheering (Christopher Thomas writes from Washington).

Mr O'Neill, aged 73, has been a member of Congress for 34 years. Tributes flowed in for him but he made it clear that his farewell was to be as simple as possible.

Mr Thomas Foley, the Democratic Whip in the House, said Mr O'Neill had transformed the speakership into "a truly national office". One of the recurring tributes was that the job had not changed him; he remained rooted in his working-class origins.

Standing at the podium for the last time Mr O'Neill said: "I think it hit me probably 48 hours ago. Some members came in for their pictures and they had their children with them. And I had Republicans coming in and I hardly knew some of them."

"I leave with no rancour in my heart for anyone. I will always be a man of the House of Representatives."

Civil War veterans condemn Star Wars

From Richard Wagg, Madrid

More than 800 veterans of the International Brigade who fought in the Spanish Civil War joined the Star Wars controversy yesterday by supporting a resolution that today's world is as threatened by nuclear weapons and the US Strategic Defence Initiative as it was by totalitarianism half a century ago.

The veterans received an emotional tribute from the people of Madrid, many of them filled with memories of the shared struggle.

The largest contingent from 24 nations at the four-day gathering was from the United States Lincoln Brigade, numbering 325 with families. The Soviet Union sent 75 former Brigadistas, officially headed by a Soviet Army general.

The veterans expressed their approval, mingled with some surprise, of how well today's Spanish democracy is progressing.

But they also launched, in a resolution read by Antonio Gades, the dancer in the film *Carmen*, the message that today is menaced by nuclear weapons and Star Wars.

Madrid's Congress Hall, the site a few years ago of the 35-nation European Security Conference, was crowded with Madrilenos of all ages. The elderly veterans received frequent applause.

The decision by the socialist Government last July, on the 50th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, not to hold official ceremonies effectively left organizing Madrid's tribute in the hands of Spain's Communist Party.

Mr Bobby Walker, aged 73, a Scot twice wounded during his 19 months in Spain, said that the Spanish people's fight had offered hope for democracy in the darkening Europe of the 1930s.

Black families refuse to be moved

Fate of 10,000 will test the sincerity of Pretoria pledge

From Michael Hornsby, Brits, Transvaal

More than 1,000 residents of the black shanty settlement outside this industrial town in the western Transvaal met in a church hall yesterday and resolved to resist a plan to relocate them 12 miles away.

Those attending the meeting represented the great majority of 1,400 families — about 10,000 people — still living in the 55-year-old settlement, simply known as the Old Location, which the Government wants to demolish and then redevelop as a whites-only suburb.

More than a year and a half ago, the Government announced that all forced removals were to be stopped, and the fate of the Old Location is seen as the first serious test of the sincerity of that pledge.

"It was a good meeting. The spirit of the people is very high. I believe we are going to try to explore every avenue to stay here," said Mr Marshall Buys, a member of the "action committee" co-ordinating resistance to the removal, who added that their first action would be a "stayaway" from work in Brits on Wednesday. "The whole of Brits industry will be dead," he said confidently.

Another member of the committee, Mr Simon Sepeng, who used to work at the Alfa Romeo car factory in Brits

until it closed down, said: "I can say for sure I am not going to Lethabile. I can go there dead, maybe."

Lethabile is the name of the resettlement site where the authorities have erected hundreds of shiny tin shacks in the open veld. Some 5,000 of the 15,000 people originally living at the Old Location were persuaded to move there last December and January.

The new settlement is on the border of the nominally "independent" Bophuthatswana tribal homeland.

One reason for not wanting to go there is the fear that it could eventually be incorporated into Bophuthatswana and that its inhabitants would then lose their South African citizenship.

The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, contends that the Old Location is a slum and needs to be demolished for reasons of hygiene. It would be too expensive, he maintains, to upgrade the housing and facilities to an acceptable standard.

The Old Location is certainly a rough place, largely because of deliberate government neglect. No house of bricks and mortar has been built there since the 1930s. There is no drainage, no electricity, no tarred roads and no street lighting. There are

bucket latrines, emptied twice a week.

Those who left in December and January were mostly wealthier residents who were paid financial compensation by the Government for their brick homes, which were demolished by the authorities to prevent squatting.

The plots of several of these demolished homes have been turned, by the remaining residents, into memorial parks, in which gaily-painted lorry tyres serve as seats.

Visible on a rocky hill overlooking the Old Location is what many consider the real reason for the Government's wish to remove them: the neat houses and well-watered gardens of Elandsrand, a well-to-do white suburb of Brits.

"It is better that they should go," an Afrikaans-speaking resident of Elandsrand said yesterday, waving a hand in the direction of the black settlement. Did the blacks cause trouble? "Not real trouble," he conceded. "But at weekends there are drinking parties and a lot of noise."

The Brits constituency has become marginal for the Government and in the next general election could fall to the extreme right-wing Conservative Party of Dr Andries Treurnicht, which wants apartheid rigidly enforced.

Shell threatens to withdraw

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Disinvestment moves by leading multinational companies operating in South Africa appeared to be intensifying at the weekend after a warning by Royal Dutch Shell, the biggest foreign oil company in South Africa, that it would pull out unless the Government speeds up race reforms.

Shell's chief executive in South Africa, Mr John Wilson, said there were no immediate plans for withdrawal, but the company was coming under tremendous pressure to do so.

He said: "If the bottom line of Royal Dutch Shell is adversely affected internationally the shareholders will have to reconsider their position."

Shell's warning was front-page news in South African newspapers yesterday, but was not reported by the state-controlled South African Broadcasting Corporation.

The Johannesburg Sunday

Times, under a banner headline "Shell shock", said: "Any move by Shell to run down its operations would be a heavy psychological blow to South Africa."

It was reported that General Motors, which employs 3,000 people at its plant in Port Elizabeth, is on the verge of selling off its South African operation to individuals, which will mean that its products will be sold under another guise.

Another American company, Warner Brothers Record Corporation, was also said to be close to selling its South African interests to its Johannesburg-based associate, WEA Records. It has a 30 per cent share of the local market and 60 per cent of its staff is black.

Shell employs 2,500 people directly in South Africa — half of them black — and thousands more indirectly in hundreds of Shell service stations.

Its annual sales are estimated at 2.3 billion rands (£737 million), generating profits of about 100 million rands.

It also has oil refining, marketing and coal and chemical interests, as well as a 50 per cent interest — with British Petroleum — in a 10 million tons a year refinery in Durban.

Ever since the Opet countries imposed a ban on sales to South Africa in the mid-1970s, Shell has been accused by international lobbies of openly flouting the embargo.

The controversy over its deals with South Africa came to a peak in 1979 when a Liberian-owned tanker, the *Selenia*, under contract to Shell, secretly unloaded a cargo of oil at Durban before being spotted in the South Atlantic.

Leading article, page 21

'Problems remain' on Harare unity

From A Correspondent, Harare

Leaders of Mr Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) and Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapu parties have yet to iron out several outstanding problems before concluding an accord on unity. Mr Joseph Msika, the Zapu vice-president, said yesterday.

Mr Msika, who did not

identify the remaining difficulties, told *The Times* that agreements reached were "a little bit premature and exaggerated". There had been no further unity talks and no meetings between the party heads since the Non-Aligned Movement meeting in Harare seven weeks ago, he said.

It was announced on the eve of that meeting that a unity accord was imminent, leading

to the inauguration by consent of a one-party state.

Mr Msika said he did not know when talks would resume. Mr Mugabe is on a private visit to Britain.

Speculation about a final reconciliation was fanned by a weekend speech by the Minister of Information, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, who said Mr Mugabe would announce details before the year end.

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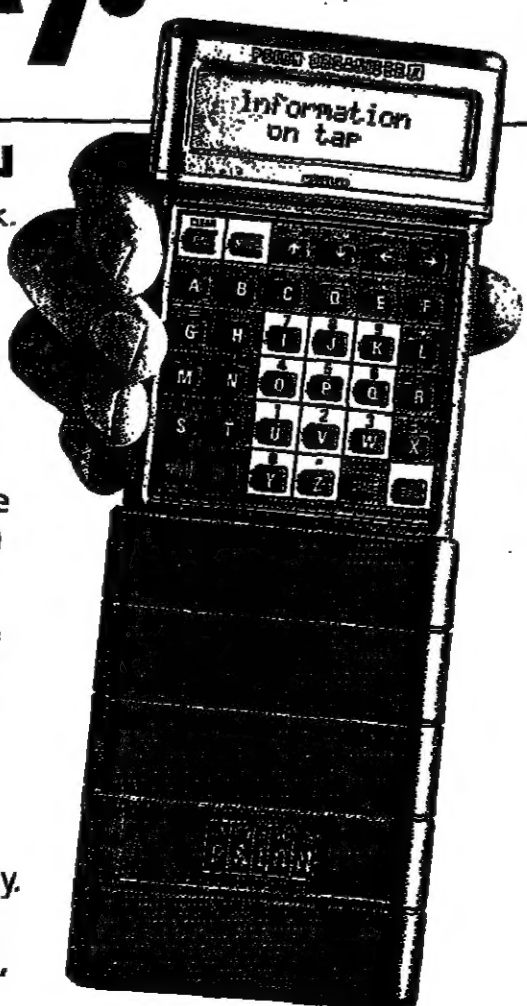
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Corruption allegations as Australia's 'deep north' election begins

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

The electoral campaign for control of Queensland, the Australian "deep north" state, started in earnest yesterday with allegations of corruption against the government of Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen.

Sir Joh, the flamboyant and durable state premier, will be seeking a new mandate on November 1 after 18 years of arch-conservative rule.

It had been apparent that a whirl of scandal which has attached to his National Party administration in recent months was likely to make this his toughest campaign yet. That was confirmed when the Labor opposition launched its campaign in Brisbane yesterday.

Mr Neville Warburton, the Labor leader, called for a new broom to sweep away the accumulated dirt, to clean away the cobwebs of corruption that now envelop this government. National Party administration had been guilty of greed, cronyism and nepotism, he said. The major growth industries in Queensland had been the drugs trade, tax avoidance, bankruptcies and secrecy.

Along with clean government, what is liable now to become an acrimonious campaign is going to focus on the age of Sir Joh, who is 75.



Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen: 18 years of conservative rule.

destroying Australia, accused Canberra of giving support to "terrorist groups".

Labor's campaign managers have decided that it might be a bit risky to expose Mr Hawke again to the profoundly conservative Queensland electorate, so the task of federal cheer-leader was entrusted to Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, who is a Queensland.

At yesterday's campaign launch, Mr Hayden made a few references to cronies of Sir Joh who had done well out of the association. They were discreet references, as the Premier has been quick of late to resort to litigation when his integrity has been impugned.

One victim was Mr Alan Bond, the brewery magnate who reached an out-of-court settlement of \$450,000 (£181,000) recently over an alleged libel of the premier by a television station owned by Mr Bond.

Despite indications that support for Sir Joh is slipping, and that Labor has its best chance in years, an outright victory for Mr Warburton looks an outside possibility.

The vote will be further split by a third party, the Liberals. The most probable outcome is that none of the three will have an overall majority.

Enrile in no mood to leave Cabinet

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, the Philippines Defence Minister, who is seeking a tough approach to Communist insurgents, yesterday said that if President Aquino asked for his resignation the whole Government should be dissolved.

His statement, on a radio phone-in programme, coincided with the resumption of secret peace talks between the Government and rebels, which were suspended last month following the capture of Mr Rodolfo Salas, the alleged former chairman of the outlawed Communist Party.

The Communist negotiators believe the capture was engineered by the military to scuttle a possible breakthrough in the talks.

A listener, who telephoned the programme to ask for his response to calls from some Cabinet members for his resignation, was told by Mr Enrile: "I will think about that when the time comes."

"You know, the Government is a coalition Government and I think if they ask for the resignation of any member of the coalition that means the coalition will have to be dissolved," he said during the two-hour programme in Cebu City, 350 miles south of here.

"I am creating powerful enemies, not only outside the Government but inside the Cabinet," he said before joining about 10,000 people at an anti-Communist rally.



Two captured Philippine government soldiers chatting with a communist guerrilla, right, after they had been freed at Gumaca, a remote town 90 miles south-east of Manila.

Government but inside the Cabinet," he said before joining about 10,000 people at an anti-Communist rally.

The Cebu rally came at the end of his three-day tour of the southern and central Philippines where, in discussion with military officers and soldiers, Mr Enrile repeated his call for a mailed-fist approach to the insurgency and, on one occasion, described Mrs Aquino's peace efforts as "simplistic and naive".

He told Southern Military Command officers in the southern port city of Zamboanga at the weekend: "Be-

cause of what I am doing today, many of my colleagues in the Cabinet have been asking for my resignation."

"I would like to assure you that I have in my mind my own approach to this problem and I will make a decision in due course."

"That decision will be predicated not on my own personal interest, but what I consider the interest of the people," he added.

He later told the officers "this is my problem, not yours" and urged the military to remain united and neutral in

his increasingly public feud with the eight-month old Government he helped to install.

For the first time last week Mr Enrile did not attend the regular Cabinet meeting, called one day after he said Mrs Aquino had forfeited the mandate of the people to govern when she abolished the Marcos constitution one month after taking power.

The peace talks, from which Mr Enrile is excluded, resumed at an undisclosed place in Manila and lasted two hours and 45 minutes, a source in the government negotiating panel said.

Portugal to boycott Jakarta discussions

Jakarta (Reuters) - Portugal will boycott a meeting of European Community and South-East Asian foreign ministers here today because of a dispute with Indonesia over East Timor, an EEC spokesman confirmed yesterday.

Lisbon, which joined the Community earlier this year along with Spain, does not recognize Indonesia's annexation 10 years ago of the former Portuguese colony.

Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, said on Friday that Jakarta had invited Portugal to the meeting.

European diplomats here said that the other 11 community members were exasperated with Lisbon for breaking a long-standing precedent that bilateral issues should not interfere with meetings with other regional groupings.

"The Community does not like Portugal taking this a la carte attitude 10 months after coming in," one diplomat said. "We would like them to be good Europeans."

The two-day meeting will discuss ways of stepping up European investment in the Association of South-East Asian Nations, which groups Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, the Philippines and Brunei.

Peru's guerrilla war

Shining Path sets sights on south

From A Correspondent, Lima

President Garcia of Peru's chances of snuffing out a six-year-old Andean insurgency led by the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) Maoist organization hinges partially on how successfully his government can prevent the spread of subversive violence on the bleak plateau of Puno, in the far south of the country.

Last week police uncovered what they claimed to be an assassination attempt against Señor Garcia, who was scheduled to visit Puno. A peasant woman carrying 34 sticks of dynamite was arrested in Juliaca, near the departmental capital of Puno, just before the presidential visit.

Although police may have exaggerated the threat to the President's life, there is no doubt that Shining Path has picked Puno as a major theatre of operations.

Most of the department of Puno lies 13,000 ft above sea level around Lake Titicaca, near the Bolivian frontier. It is among the most backward regions in the country, surviving on subsistence farming and cattle-raising, handicrafts and smuggling.

The region was ravaged in 1983-84 by the worst drought this century, followed by torrential rains and flooding this year.

Shining Path's stronghold for the past six years has been the south-central Andean mountains of Ayacucho, halfway between Puno and Lima. More than 9,000 people have died in the conflict. Although Shining Path cadres have been in the Puno region since 1982, their actions were sporadic.

Since Señor Garcia took office in mid-1985 his operations began repeating the patterns which characterized their tactics in Ayacucho.

Roving guerrilla bands began raiding isolated settlements, police stations, and



massive land redistribution. Land invasions, some instigated by Shining Path, have already taken place.

President Garcia has promised the redistribution of 1.85 million acres to 400 peasant communities, affecting 43 farm co-operatives. The original land reform legislation, dating back to 1969, merely passed ownership from large landlords to former workers without adequately incorporating the communities.

But the local hierarchs of Señor Garcia's party, Apra, are dragging their feet because they are closely associated with co-operative management and former owners.

The latest increase in subversive violence comes just a few weeks before municipal elections to be held on November 9. Shining Path is violently opposed to electoral politics and has traditionally mounted offensives to disrupt voting.

Ortega appeal to UN over aid to Contras

Managua (Reuters) - President Ortega of Nicaragua called yesterday for an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council following final approval by the United States of aid to rebels fighting his left-wing Government.

Señor Ortega told a news conference that President Reagan's signing into law yesterday of the \$100 million (£68 million) aid bill was a "criminal" act that risked involving US troops in all-out war in Central America.

It made the American President an international outlaw, since it defied the World Court, which had ruled that Washington's support for Contra rebels was illegal. Nicaragua was seeking the



Señor Ortega in animated mood as he calls for a Security Council debate to condemn President Reagan.

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Southern Indian politics

Help for disadvantaged classes may cause irreparable damage

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

A political nightmare for two South Indian chief ministers is created by the policy of positive discrimination in favour of economically or socially backward classes, which is supposed to help social integration and remove inequalities.

Instead, the policies are causing riots and political disturbances, and may eventually damage the social fabric of the states beyond repair.

The policy calls for places to be reserved for applicants from specified castes or other groups in higher education or in government employment.

It has been a cardinal principle of Indian social policy since the founding of the republic, and is seen as a useful tool in overcoming the prejudices of previous centuries.

Lately, however, it has become a way for politically powerful groups to buttress their own privileged positions, encouraged by vote-hungry politicians.

This reservation policy enabled an ambitious Congress politician such as Mr. Amarsingh Solanki to put together an alliance of low-caste, outcaste and Muslim voters which gained him victory in state elections and carried him to the chief minister's chair.

But he was thrown out of

power as a result of the more advanced castes starting a mighty agitation against his policies. The demonstrations became increasingly violent and turned into a series of riots and running battles between Muslims and Hindus.

In the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, Mr. N. T. Rama Rao, the kithsyndicate, ageing film star who occupies the chief minister's chair, having created his own political party and swept Congress from power early in 1983, apparently learned no lesson from Mr. Solanki's experience.

In July this year, feeling threatened by a Congress move to unite the backward classes against him, he hastily increased reservations in jobs and college admissions.

After his move the number of places available to open competition fell to a ludicrous 29 per cent. The others are divided 16 per cent for scheduled castes, the so-called Untouchables or Harijans; 6 per cent for scheduled tribes, that is the aboriginal inhabitants of the subcontinent; another 6 per cent for special groups such as the handicapped, and an astonishing 44 per cent for other backward classes, which Mr. Rama Rao had increased from 25 per cent.

Not unnaturally, the higher

castes were agitated: an important protest began to roll, led by a student agitation. But before much steam could be generated, the Andhra High Court struck down the decision as unconstitutional, citing a Supreme Court decision that reservations should never be more than 50 per cent of available places.

Mr. Rama Rao agreed with the students not to appeal against the High Court decision, if they agreed to call off their protests.

But this deal enraged the leaders of the backward classes, who began a series of riots of their own, burning rather more than £2 million worth of buses in the course of it.

In the neighbouring state of Karnataka, Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde, the chief minister from the Janata party, has been faced with an opposite problem.

The report of a commission headed by a retired civil servant recommended that reservations for backward castes should be reduced from 49 per cent to 27 per cent and called for the removal of a large number of castes from the list.

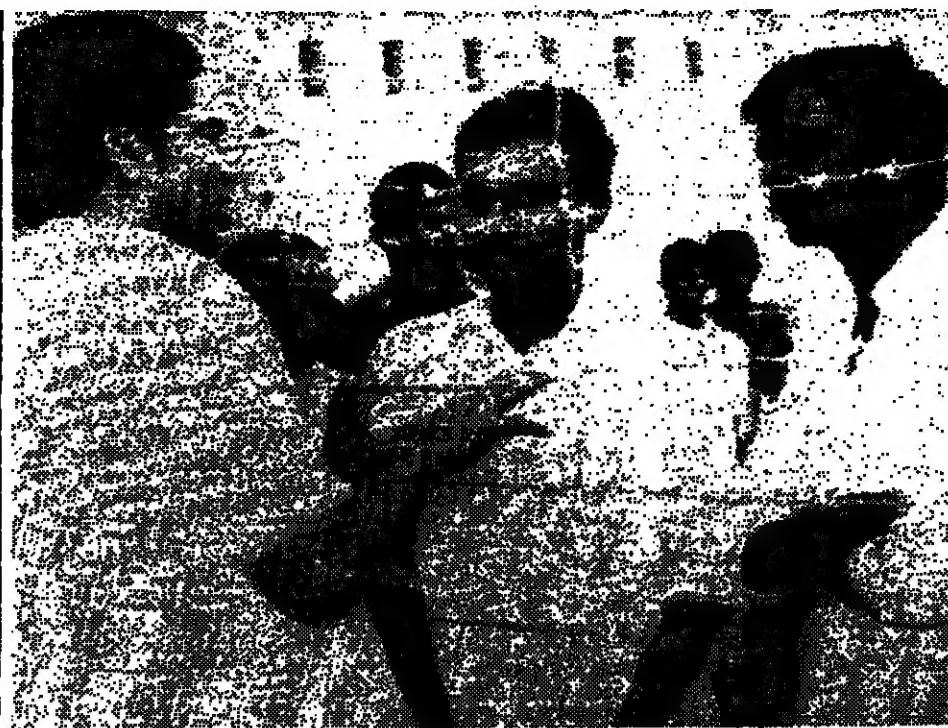
Before Mr. Hegde, who appointed the commission to honour a commitment given by the last Congress chief

minister of the state, could do anything, groups of the affected castes began calling general strikes and burning his effigy. One further trouble is that the principal caste delisted is the numerically powerful Vokkaliga, who form an influential group within his own party and government.

Mr. Hegde has temporized by rejecting the commission report. But even that has not stopped the problem. The Lingayats, the other politically powerful caste, lost the honour of being known as a backward caste a decade ago. They want the whole issue reopened, so that they can claw back their privileged position.

The Vokkaligas and the Lingayats between them make up nearly 75 per cent of the Janata legislature party. A big dispute over the reservation policy may not only destroy the Janata Government, observers warn, but may also rip apart the social cohesion of the state itself.

The *Times of India* notes: "The irony of it is that the report is the result of the first serious attempt made in post-independence India to take account of the mobility of castes and classes and to determine 'backwardness' on the basis of actual house-to-house surveys."



The Sri Lankan Security Minister, Mr. Lalith Athulathumudali, talking to Tamil prisoners.

Uncertain fate of Sri Lanka prisoners

From Vijitha Yapa Colombo

There are conflicting reports on the fate of two Sri Lankan soldiers captured by Tamil guerrillas last week and held in the Northern Province capital of Jaffna.

Some reports say that the Tamil guerrillas will exchange the soldiers for guerrillas who are among more than 1,000 Tamils held in prisons and detention camps in the south for alleged involvement with "terrorists".

But General Cyril Ranatunga, commanding the Joint Operations Command, said in the state-controlled *Sunday Observer*: "We are counting on the terrorists keeping their word about the release of the two captured soldiers."

He said no ransom demands had been made, and that the terrorists had informed the Government Agent in Jaffna that the soldiers would be released after they recovered from their injuries.

The two soldiers, Gunner P. R. K. Fernando and rifleman K. W. M. Bandara, were captured on Monday near Mannar in an ambush in which nine soldiers were killed. One is said to have a broken leg, and the other has pleurisy and a slight injury.

The Government claims that 65 guerrillas were killed and a large number injured in the fighting.

Meanwhile, the independent *The Island* newspaper reported yesterday that the Tamil guerrillas, based in Madras, would take part in the next round of talks aimed at a negotiated settlement of the ethnic problem.

Guerrilla leaders in Madras told *The Island* last week that they did not consider the current proposals a reasonable basis for negotiation.

The Tamil United Liberation Front has expressed reservations about Tamil-speaking areas of the Eastern Province merging with the predominantly Tamil Northern Province, ownership of state land in the devolved provincial council areas, and Parliament retaining power to legislate even on matters that have been devolved.

It has also ruled out the possibility of signing an agreement with the Sri Lanka Government without the involvement of Tamil guerrilla groups.

Political observers say that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, is expected to take some initiative in the crisis when he returns from his tour of the Pacific this week. Mr. J. N. Dixit, India's High Commissioner in Colombo, has gone to Delhi to brief him on his talks with President Jayewardene.

The next meeting between Mr. Jayewardene and Mr. Gandhi will be in Bangalore in India on November 15, when both take part in the heads of state conference of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation.

Envoy fights for a Romanian bride

Delhi — Mr. Kumar Gajendra Singh, until two years ago the Indian Ambassador in Bucharest, is mounting a legal challenge to a rule which bans foreign service officers from marrying foreigners, so that he can marry a Romanian. (Our Own Correspondent writes).

It seems odd that such a rule should be enforced in a country whose Prime Minister married a foreigner — Mrs. Rajiv Gandhi was born Sonia Maino in Italy — a chief minister may be so linked —

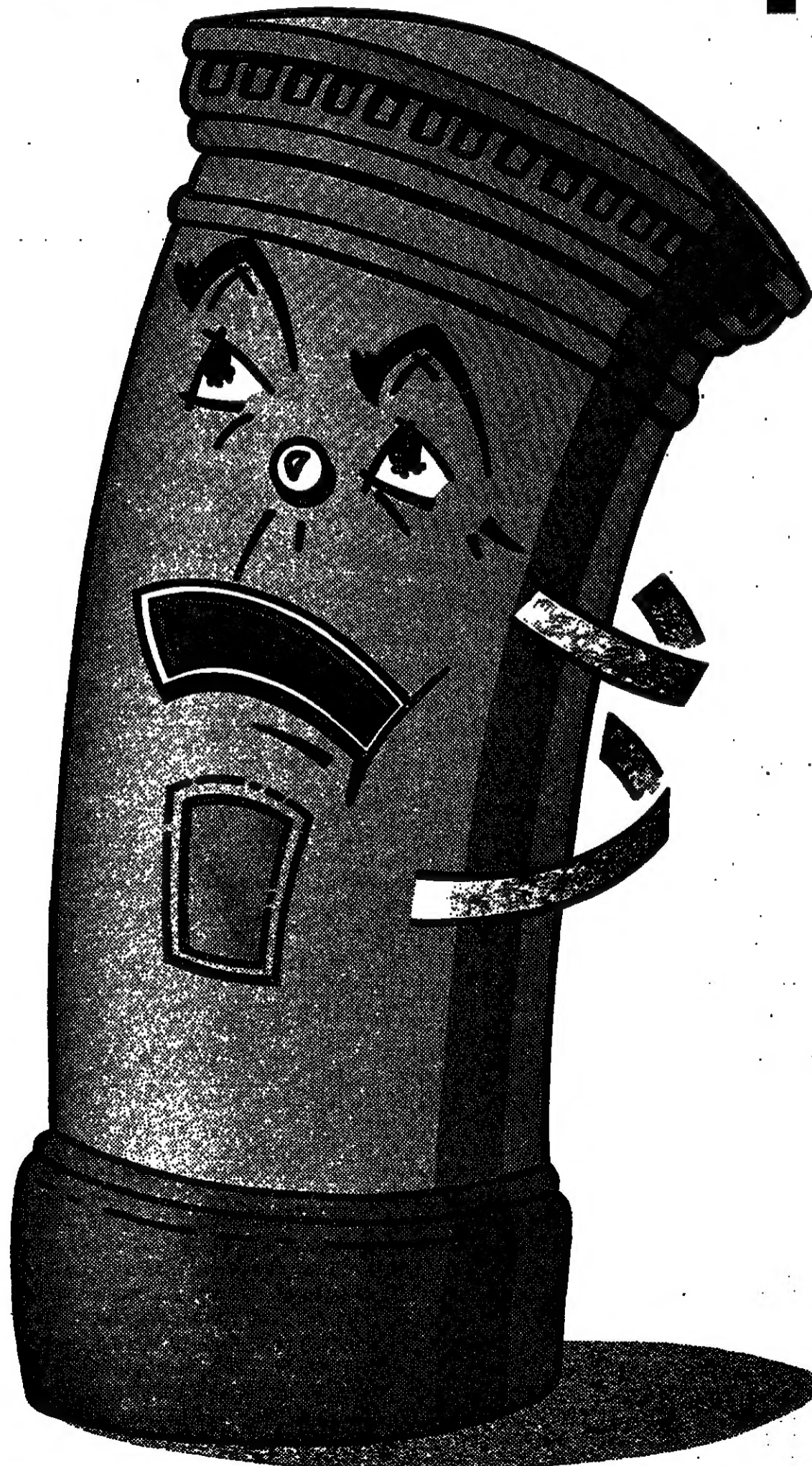
Dr. Farooq Abdullah, former head of the Kashmir Government, is married to an Englishwoman — and so may the governor of a state — Dr. B. K. Nehru, who in his time has been governor of seven states, has a Hungarian wife.

When the rule was not zealously enforced many slipped under the net, including the present Indian Ambassador to Egypt, who has an English wife, the Ambassador to Norway, a Belgian, the ambassadors to Tunisia and

Laos, both with British wives, the Ambassador to Ireland, a French wife, the envoy in Colombia, a Spaniard and in the Philippines, an American of Chinese descent.

"The Government has always had reservations about its personnel marrying foreigners and about 10 years ago, in Mrs. Gandhi's time, it was decided that the rule would be strictly applied and permission would no longer be granted," said Mr. M. K. Rasgotra.

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TELECOM

Rallies banned in Punjab

From Hasan Akhtar Islamabad

Public processions by political parties have been banned in parts of Punjab province. Miss Benazir Bhutto, the leader of the Pakistan People's Party, has already announced she would defy any ban on public meetings or processions.

It is apparent that the ban is intended to check the welcome Miss Bhutto has been receiving from supporters whenever she visits Punjab or the interior of Sind.

Meanwhile, although a judge in Rawalpindi accepted a bail application at the weekend, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Khar, a former governor of Punjab, had still not been freed from a jail in Faisalabad in Punjab yesterday.

Mr. Khar had applied for release on bail after being arrested in connection with a case in which an opposition rally in Rawalpindi was fired on in 1973. But Mr. Khar is also being held for failing to appear before a military court some years ago during nearly nine years in self-imposed exile.

Once described as the political heir of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the executed former prime minister, Mr. Khar has now joined a new political party, with Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi of Sind, in opposition to Miss Bhutto.

Strict security in force for Gandhi's Thai visit

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Strict security measures, similar to those for the visits of the Pope and Mrs. Nancy Reagan, were in force when Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, arrived yesterday in Bangkok, home of 20,000 Sikhs.

Thailand's national police chief checked Mr. Gandhi's hotel suite before his arrival and ordered the closure of the hotel's huge car park.

Some of the Sikhs, many of them rich merchants and property owners, later met Mr. Gandhi. The community in Bangkok is believed to have no links with militant Sikhs who are demanding autonomy in India. But Thai police were worried that extremists might try to enter Thailand while Mr. Gandhi is here. Several Indians have been refused entry in the past few days.

Mr. Gandhi's visit, the first by an Indian prime minister, has been described as a major

landmark in relations between the two countries, which have never been close.

At meetings with King Bhumibol and General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Prime Minister, Mr. Gandhi discussed the situation in Cambodia, a subject which in the past has strained relations between Bangkok and Delhi, although that problem has receded since Mr. Gandhi took office.

India is the only major power outside the Soviet bloc to recognize the Vietnamese-backed Government in Cambodia, but it no longer opposes Thailand's efforts to find a political solution to the war there.

The two governments, anxious to increase trade and co-operation in industry, technology and science, will sign agreements during the visit to establish joint laboratories and to exchange technological and scientific information.

Dhaka closes medical colleges

Dhaka — Police in Bangladesh forced striking students to vacate campuses after all nine medical colleges across the country were closed, to head off protests by about 6,000 medical students demanding government jobs after graduation, official sources

The Health Minister, Mr. Saluddin Kader Choudhury, closed the colleges for a month and installed police guards, as ministry sources said the current figure in Bangladesh of 5,000 unemployed and under-employed doctors was rising.

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THE CREATIVE USE OF MONEY.

Russians open sea and rail link to by-pass Poland

By Our East European Correspondents

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

They were protesting about the fact that Afghanistan was not discussed at the conference, which some Western commentators have attacked as being Soviet-inspired and a covert propaganda exercise engineered by Moscow.

After a prolonged and at

HINWEIS FÜR DEUTSCHE ZUR WAHL ZUM DEUTSCHEN BUNDESTAG

Am 25. Januar 1987 wird in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland über die Zusammensetzung des Deutschen Bundestages entschieden. Erstmals können Deutsche, die im Ausland leben und keinen Wohnsitz in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland einschliesslich Berlin (West) mehr haben, an der Wahl teilnehmen.

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Diese Stellen schicken Ihnen gerne weitere Informationen zu.

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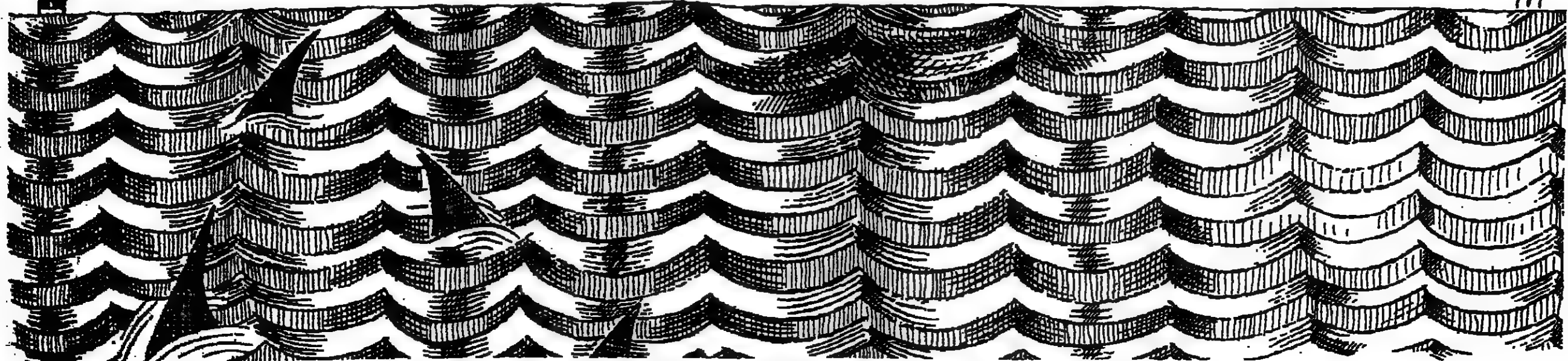
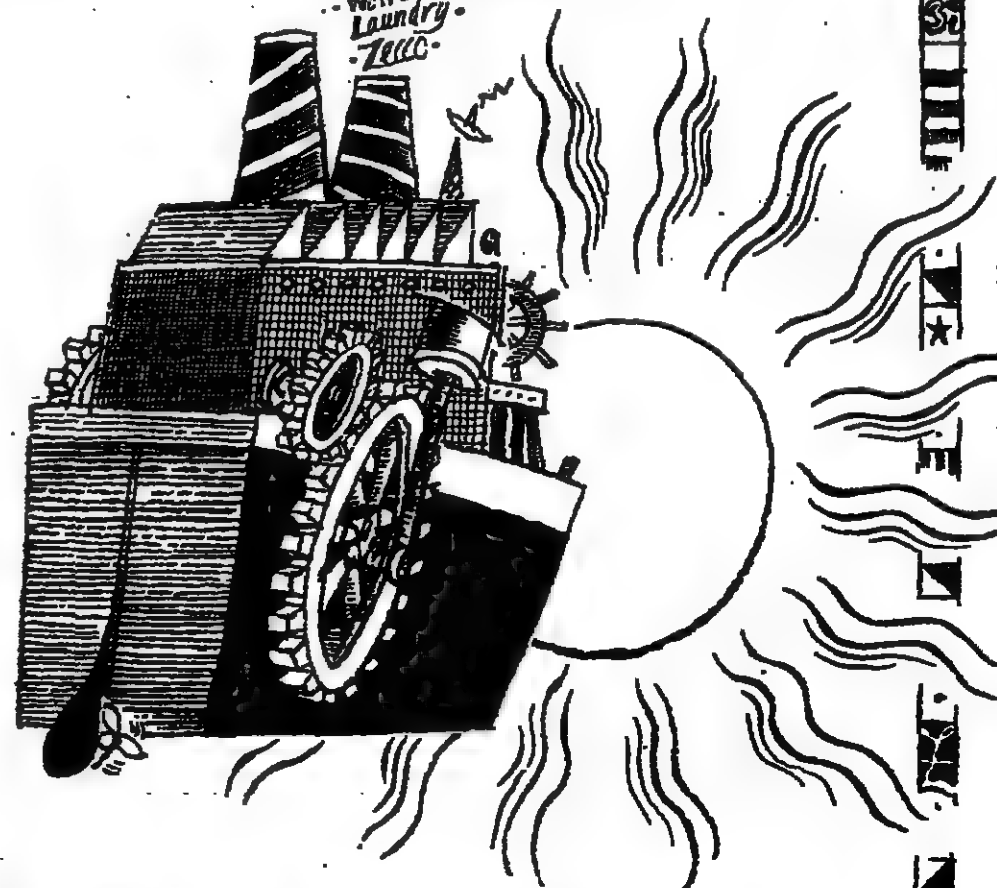
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THE CREATIVE USE OF MONEY.



THE ARTS

More blessed than the Booker

Off to Jersey's tax-haven, to help in a modest little celebration of Jack Higgins's latest multi-million best-seller, *Night of the Fox*, went Craig Brown...

Morecambe, isn't it, in the background, and there he is with Vera Lynn, and Antonia Fraser, and who's that? Oh, Billy Butlin.

The sedentary journalists have had their fill and have begun to wander about. "Apparently there is a jacuzzi upstairs," whispers one, and the others chuckle. "Did you see the gold findings in the bathroom?" asks another. Higgins's new wife explains to someone that he is known by his other name, Harry Patterson, on Jersey. "So the locals call him Harry?" "Oh, very much so," she replies. "... but I'm sure I've got just as much to say on the creative process as some obscure novelist who's never even gained the Booker short-list."

The semicircle has stopped writing, but continues to nod. The top dog from Collins presents Higgins with a vast reconstruction of his new book in glossy cardboard. Inside, you can open a flap and a tape with the television advertisement for the book pops out. "And this comes with a great deal of affection from everyone who has worked on the campaign," he says. He then produces a statuette for Jack. "And we thought we'd give you a memento of a really marvelous book — everyone's tremendously excited by it and this little bronze is to say you really are very special to us..."

"It's better than the Booker prize," quips Jack, and everyone laughs. After a presentation of flowers to Denise, the publicity woman says "Shall we drink up?" The coach is waiting, and we leave. Someone has placed a large ashtray on top of *Misalliance*, but otherwise September remains spick and span.

© *Night of the Fox* is published by Collins at £9.95.

If at first you don't succeed

Judging from yesterday's scheduling, BBC2 certainly believe that if something is worth doing it is worth doing again. In four programmes men were seen poking at small white balls with wooden sticks. In two others people were asked a lot of questions about sexual relations.

Finally, the evening was rounded off by Diane Keaton giving a practical demonstration in *Looking For Mr Goodbar* of once never being enough.

TELEVISION

The two interrogatory attempts to come to grips with sex, though, were as significantly different as the smiting of the balls with hockey sticks and snooker cues. In *Thinking Aloud* they tried discussing it with people who have not experienced it together. At least, if Roger Scruton, Juliet Mitchell, Michael Neve, Helena Kennedy and the new, intelligently less intrusive chairman, Michael Ignatieff, all chastely far apart on their sofas, ever have, they were not letting on.

In this week's *Loveland*, about *Wives and Husbands*, those questioned were indisputably tainted with intimacy.

One of the programmes was notable for its personal revelations, the other for the intellectual clarity of its contributions. *Thinking Aloud*, the odd *apart* notwithstanding, left us as much confused as informed. On the other hand, Michael Neve revealed the importance of infidelity in his sexual initiation and Roger Scruton not only described himself as part of a "liberal" elite but showed a touching vulnerability in asking "Why is everyone always so unhappy about agreeing with me?"

The message was much clearer in *Loveland*, which gave us Japanese, Egyptian, Hungarian and Californian couples men are bounders and women know it, though sometimes they have to be careful about saying it. Only the American husband had got his consanguinity but then he was a rebounder, who had returned to his wife after she in his absence had started a successful career, only to find that she was no longer so keen to do the dishes.

Andrew Hislop

DANCE

Symphonic Variations

Frederick Ashton created *Symphonic Variations* in 1946, after wartime years during which, conscripted, he was unable to practise his trade. The dances, long repressed, burst from him like a spring, and César Franck's music inspired him to shape them in a way he (or hardly any other choreographer) had ever tried before, as one long lyrical flow of movement, free of any plot but with a strong emotional undertone.

The work is the foundation-stone of the Royal Ballet's style but has long lain unperformed, for which Ashton's fearful mistrust of replacement casts must take some blame. It says something about Anthony Dowell's purpose and ability as director that he has got it back at the beginning of his tenure, and was able to heal wounds caused by shabby past treatment and bring in Michael Somes to rehearse the revival.

Saturday's premiere found Anthony's winner as soloist and Brian Jackson as conductor achieving the intimate, sometimes hushed conversation be-



Jack Higgins, bursting with energy

It is not often that a novelist features his own house in his work without changing its name. In Jack Higgins's latest multi-million best-seller, *Night of the Fox*, his house Septemberide in Jersey makes a major appearance: it is where Harry Martineau, philosophy don turned killer for his country, masquerading in wartime Jersey as Standartenführer Max Vogel, comes across the man he believes to be Rommel but who is in fact Heini Baum, a brilliant mimic.

Such literary history should not pass unnoticed, so Collins arranged for a group of 15 journalists to fly out for lunch with Higgins at Septemberide. "Do you mind wearing this little label?" asks the publicity woman. "Just so Jack and Denise can remember who they're talking to."

Higgins, dressed in black, wearing dark glasses, welcomes the group, introducing them to Denise, a blonde in green. Denise is his young wife of nearly two years. The group is given champagne and passes on to the balcony, agreeing that the view is breathtaking. Fresh air taken, people dawdle back inside. Indian sculptures and dark seascapes decorate the room. Books abound on a selection of coffee tables: Graham Greene, Brian Patten, the biography of Frank Sinatra, the *Bookseller* magazine and *Tactics: The Art and Science of Success* by Edward de Bono. A *Misalliance* by Anita Brookner is uppermost.

Higgins, a chunky silver watch on his wrist, approaches a journalist and starts talking. "Several people have said to me, Martineau's an amazing kind of character, where did you get him from, so I say, well, let's put it this way..."

On the other side of the room two

Unfailing vocal intelligence

Nigel Rogers
Wigmore Hall

CONCERTS

It is hard to believe that the singing career of Nigel Rogers has now spanned a quarter of a century. It has been a period coincident with the rise of the "early music" movement to a point at which the public, and hence the industry, now consumes authenticity with genuine fervour. Rogers's singing style was a crucial part of the revolution, and as this celebratory recital showed he remains an important flag-bearer of an attitude that seeks to negate the tradition, conceived in the 19th century, of cultivating voices capable of competing with ever-expanding orchestras and ever denser textures.

Not everyone may warm to Rogers's somewhat rasping tenor, but it is certainly distinctive, and he applies it with unfailing intelligence and instinct to whatever he happens to be singing.

There were occasions here when one wished that his delivery were not quite so intense: often he seemed to

want to get the message across simply by shouting it at us. Yet he clearly relishes the sheer adventure of his music, relishing — even a little cynically, to judge from the tone of his spoken translations — in the frustrated ardours contained in many of the texts. And his opening group, unaccompanied, of an anonymous English song from c. 1300, the Machaut *revel* "Douce Dame jolie", and a song by the Meistersinger Hans Sachs, was most beautifully understated.

With the harpsichordist John Toll (who also gave an exquisite reading of Tomkins's "A Sad Pavan for these Distracted Times") he then took us on a quick tour of 17th-century Italian monody, to which genre he has probably contributed more than any other singer, cultivating and perfecting a technique capable of negotiating the

most lavish ornamentation. There was rather more of that in D'India's "Tun'il di pianto" than in Caccini's "A quel sospir ardente" or "La bella man vi stringo", but for sheer ardour Monteverdi took the prize in his "Ecco di dolce raggi".

Besides such music, Henry Lawes and Matthew Locke seemed relatively wooden, though Locke's "The Despondent Lover's Song" contained some expressive harmonies, and the neat repetition of text at its end helped to heighten emotions.

Similarly three 18th-century cantatas by Montéclair, Alessandro Scarlatti and Benedetto Marcello, to which, as in the English group, Mark Camille added a starkly sounded, slightly reserved, constrained perhaps by the limitations of dramatic contrast imposed by *da capo* form. Considered purely as abstract inventions, however, they were marvellous.

Stephen Pettitt

Hard to follow

Langdon/
Sutherland
Wigmore Hall

The violinist Sophie Langdon has in the past five years set such high standards of expectation for herself and her audiences that some degree of disappointment is almost inevitable sooner or later. After her revelatory Weill Concerto three years ago, a series of equally resonant recitals, and her fiery presence in the Trio Zingara, this programme of Russian music promised a lot.

From the very start, in Stravinsky's *Suite Italienne*, the distinctive, extroverted voice was there, but the direction was a little shrunken. And by the end of the evening, even Prokofiev's Sonata in D, the perfect showcase for Miss Langdon's characteristic balance of technical precision and panache, was a little lacklustre, too predictable in its responses.

It may well have been the only half-full hall. It may have been simply that, at this point in her career, her own act is proving a hard one to follow. Or it may be something to do with the fact that Miss Langdon is beginning to meet more challenges, more stimulus, in a career which seems to be settling towards the mainstream.

John Percival



Magnificent partnership: Dennis O'Neill, Suzanne Murphy (photograph by Clive Barrie)

Singing triumphant over all

Lucia di
Lammermoor
New, Cardiff

OPERA

It would be offensive to the Welsh National Opera to suggest that their performance of *Lucia di Lammermoor* on Saturday night would have been worthy of an international company. It was, quite simply, worthy of the WNO: one can hardly invoke higher standards in a year that has seen not only their *Ring at Covent Garden* but also the towering achievement of their *Orfeo* with Peter Stein.

The *Lucia* success, though, is altogether different in kind. It is not easy to see how this could ever be a producer's opera, and William Gaskill has been content to intervene very little, leaving things to the cast and, less happily, to the designer, Ulitz. The visual aspect is indeed unappealing. One sees only a dark hillside littered with plastic rocks (if better plastic rocks than we had for *Stefania*) and a set of near-black bushes. Black walls. These can be trundled from side to side, but the sound and size of their movements is ludicrously out of scale with the music, especially when the lumbering machinery goes into action in the first act to the accompaniment of the harp solo that introduces Lucia. Given that the costumes are all naturalistic in kits and treads,

the brutalist set is merely nasty.

But in fact it is almost an irrelevance, because what matters in this production is uniquely the singing. Suzanne Murphy gives an astonishing performance as the heroine. She sings from the start with a blanching, almost vibrato-less tone, which suggests instability of mind but which demands great stability of pitch: there is no room for accident on these exposed, glacial slopes of singing. Miss Murphy does not put a foot wrong. She throws her voice nakedly and daringly into the role, and is rewarded with a great personal success. She is always clear in the ensembles, but never loses, by virtue of her clarity of tone, the sense of one on the brink of running mad. Then, in the mad scene itself, she does not rush into derangement but holds herself vocally and physically quite still, making the music work as a means of expression. It entirely suits this interpretation that the spurious flute-led cadenza is cut, to be replaced by a purely vocal exercise that makes loosened vocal cords, and a feeling almost of un-willed singing, signify loosened senses.

Dennis O'Neill's Edgardo is also magnificent. His singing has always been Italianate and cultivated, but here he seemed

Hilary Finch

Better than luxury casting

The Petition
Wyndhams

From the time of its opening at the National Theatre in July, it was clear that Brian Clark's star two-hander was only passing through on its way to the West End. Whatever the reason for the South Bank preliminaries, Peter Hall's production has now found a snug berth as a thoughtful, beautifully performed show pitched to the up-market commercial taste of people who want to encounter serious issues in the theatre without being too upset.

A dialogue in which the husband, a retired general, simultaneously discovers that his wife has three months to live and that she has joined the campaign against nuclear warfare. *The Petition* combines the marital and military battlefields. It cannot be said that they do much to illuminate each other, if only for

THEATRE

the reason that the marital war develops inside a loving relationship, and that, as yet, family life lacks any equivalent of the SS20. What the play does offer is startling evidence that sexual warfare continues unabated into old age; and that love is often the means of uniting people who only thwart and diminish each other.

In this case, it is rather as if Mrs Alving had married Pastor Manders. Imprisoned by her name, Lady Elizabeth Milne has spent 50 years bottling up her liberal opinions and discharging her frustrated energies into adultery. The General, meanwhile, has gone in dread of having his promotion scuppered by her dangerous tongue. Now, on the brink of the grave, all the secrets come tumbling out in a masterfully organized collision of past and present.

Irving Wardle

ROCK

New Model Army
Town & Country
Club

It is shame that New Model Army have allowed themselves to be dumped in the punk revivalist ghetto when they plainly have so much more to offer. The waves of energetic abandon that render the dance-floor an unsafe area for casual spectators during "Christian Militia" and "Smalltown England" still constitute one of the strongest cards in their hands, but even in the heat of a live performance they successfully dealt out the acoustic guitar-dominated "Love songs" and the sorrowful, reflective "Ballad", aided by the keening harmonica of Mark Feltham, previously of Nine Below Zero.

Feltham was also present when they came up with their trump, "Poison Street", a rough-hewn mixture of verse, chorus, acceleration and drive, but for the most part it was just the two blond bouffants of Robb Heston on drums and Jason Harris on bass, contrasting with the scrawny figure of Slade the Leveller on guitar and vocals.

Whether in terms of politics or production values, they offered none of the current panaceas, only a naive dramatic idealism. "All of This" captured not only the chilling nuances of cold-war intrigue but also the horrors of terrorist campaigns, in a song of unusually layered intensity, excellently played but through a rough sound mix. Unfashionable heroic rock recidivists they may be, but in their own way they have as much to say as Billy Bragg, and they make it sound considerably better.

Paul Griffiths

David Sinclair

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The New York meeting

THE END OF THE STREET E.C.4.

● In January this year 5,500 News International print workers went on strike in pursuit of a demand for "jobs for life". The strike put the workers in breach of contract, for which they were sacked — as their strike ballot form had warned they could be.

● The dispute came after several years in which the company had tried to reach agreement with the unions to open new plants at Tower Hamlets (Wapping) and Kinning Park, Glasgow, built at a combined cost of nearly £100 million. Over the years the unions had continually rejected company requests on manning and working conditions, but the general background to the negotiations was many years of industrial anarchy at Gray's Inn Road (*The Times*, *The Sunday Times*) and Bouverie Street (*The Sun*, *News of the World*) and an almost daily tug of war between management and unions over who was running the company.

● Finally, Rupert Murdoch decided to change tactics; to open the new plant at Tower Hamlets as a green-field site and to "start again" in a completely new relationship with the unions. It was the failure of the unions to accept the management's industrial relations blueprint for a proposed new evening paper, the *London Post*, that led to print workers at all four existing titles going on strike. As a consequence, the four titles were moved to Wapping to maintain production.

● A book on the origins and consequences of this historic dispute, *The End of the Street*, by Linda Melvern, provides a fascinating account of the workings of the newspaper industry, its management attitudes and its workforce practices. Neither News International nor Times Newspapers has co-operated with the author of the book (as she makes clear in a foreword). We do not necessarily associate ourselves with any statements presented as fact in the book nor any conclusions it reaches. But *The Times* believes that the book is important as the first attempt at a non-partisan account of what has become known as "The Wapping dispute" and so we begin today a four-part serialization.



Changing Fleet Street: Murdoch outlines his plans for the Post to his executives. "Once he had decided he wanted something, he would throw money and energy into getting it."

Part 1: The dash for freedom

I was on Sunday February 10 last year, in his elegant but comfortable 12-room apartment on Fifth Avenue in New York, that Rupert Murdoch outlined the "dash for freedom" that was to revolutionize his British newspaper operation. A group of executives had flown from London on Concorde the day before and the meeting, which began at 10 in the morning, took place around the dining room table.

The project discussed that day concerned the idea of a new London evening paper — the *Post* — which could eventually be expanded to a 24-hour paper with national distribution. One of those present described the gathering as a "brainstorming meeting. We discussed logistics."

He added that if the company planned to produce a new paper using direct input by journalists — thus cutting out the need for typesetters — Murdoch "would be out of his mind not to make damn sure the unions could not close

down his other four titles...if events turn out that you've pushed your luck, you've got a contingency plan."

This contingency plan would involve a computerized typesetting system. Speed was essential: there was no time for "state of the art". Murdoch told the gathering that he wanted a system that was "dead safe" with good logistic support. He said: "We are not taking risks."

Those around the table who were familiar with his style knew they would be totally swept up by the plan — there would be nothing but work and no time for anything but what became known as the "Post Project."

Of those present, Bruce Matthews, the managing director of News International, had the most experience of Murdoch's addiction to challenge. He knew that Murdoch would now relentlessly drive them forward with his absolute commitment to the project — the chairman was not known for looking backwards.

Once he had decided he wanted something, he would throw money and energy into getting it. His enthusiasm was infectious. One executive described working on a Murdoch project as like "being on a magic carpet. Suddenly you're off". In the coming months, all of them would be caught up in a whirlwind of activity.

Matthews, an Australian who joined Murdoch in 1971 at the age of 47, was now to have a strategic role in the *Post* project. But towards the summer of last year he began calling it "mission impossible" — though never in Murdoch's presence.

It was no surprise to most of them in the apartment to see one of Murdoch's more recent finds, Charles Wilson, then joint deputy editor of *The Times*. He was now to play an even more important role in the Murdoch empire. Also there was Christopher Pole-Carew, who was lashed by the print unions for confronting them over new technology at the *Evening Post* in Nottingham, where Pole-Carew had been managing director.

And the presence of Ken Taylor, Murdoch's technical director, had been enough to tell the others that whatever was in Murdoch's mind, it would involve Wapping; it was Taylor's plant, he knew every building, every screw, every nail. That meeting was to mark the beginning of the end of trade union power in Fleet Street; but just what was Murdoch fleeing from?

Murdoch had become exasperated with Fleet Street's industrial relations problems, which were neither secret nor recent. For years, the proprietors had grappled with the industry's labour problems: an overpaid workforce using outmoded equipment, overmanning, closed shops and frequent wildcat strikes.

Brenda Dean, general secretary of Sogat '82, came to national newspaper negotiations after many years in Manchester. She was appalled by what she found in Fleet Street. "My job is to secure agreement by persuasion, cajoling, logic and sometimes force of personality based on other people's belief in my sincerity and honesty," she had said. "A skilled negotiator does not say to management 'pay up or you've got no paper tonight'."

The first time she had attended London negotiations was at Times Newspapers after the 11-month shutdown in 1979. There were 56 Chapel Fathers (office branch chairmen) in the room. "It was negotiation with mob instincts," Dean said.

"Have you ever attended a Fleet Street funeral?" she asked once. "It's like the Mafia." And she had never forgotten the time when, on her election as general secretary in August 1983, a television camera-

'A Murdoch project is like a magic carpet. Suddenly you're off'

man wanted to film her standing in a machine room; he had to pay the Chapel Father £25 for the privilege. The salaries some earned amazed Dean.

But some seasoned union officials thought that Dean approached talks with News International as if she were dealing with boy scouts.

The major problem — for management and national union officials alike — was the Chapels (office branches); their power was absolute and their Fathers (chairmen) were baron-like.

Ray James, who always came to work in a conservative navy blue suit carrying a briefcase, led Fleet Street's biggest Chapel, the *Sun* machine room. He had a reputation for always being after more money and one of his favourite stories was about how he coerced a manager into paying for his home telephone rental.

James would strike out at anybody, including those — like Bruce Matthews — for whom he had a grudging respect. During one dispute, Matthews marched into James's office. "I said it was his f— firm but he was in my office," recalled James, telling Matthews to leave. Sometimes it

was better to do as James said. Whatever the problems, James never blamed Murdoch. He thought him a reasonable "guy" nor. He had sent Murdoch a telegram of congratulation when he bought *The Times* and Murdoch replied that it was "particularly pleasing" to have heard from him.

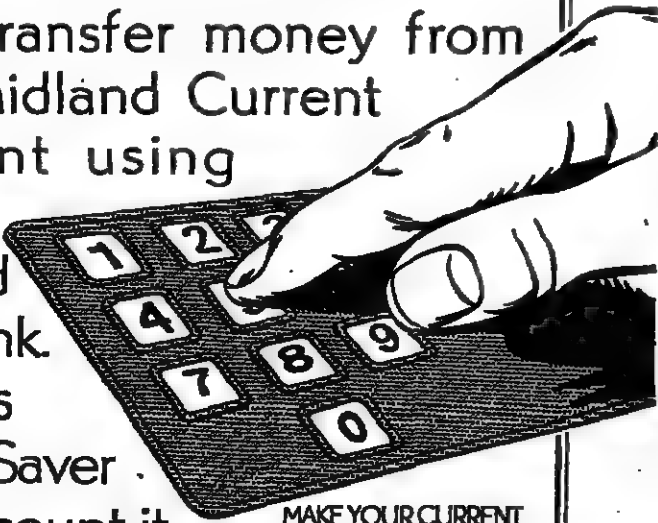
It was in the composing rooms, where stories were set into type and made up as pages, that the resistance to new technology was fiercest. The typesetters (linotype operators) considered themselves an elite within an elite — they even kept their wages secret from national union officials. Their Chapels (office branches) were all-powerful.

Most compositors can remember a time when reaching £200 a week seemed an impossibility; by 1985 *Daily Express* "comps" had leapt over the £1,100 a week hurdle and a 1981 agreement at Murdoch's *Sun* guaranteed compositors £43,000 a year.

The basis of their payments had been the "London scale of prices" which dated back 200 years: it guaranteed extra pay for setting different sizes of type, for setting corrections and even for leaving

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Have clout, will travel

At this time of year the political situation in Bermuda, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean becomes intensely interesting. Conversely, all politics in places such as Buffalo, Milwaukee and Minneapolis becomes a crashing bore. This explains why, like geese, members of Congress migrate with the seasons.

Common Cause, a self-styled watchdog body based in Washington, has discovered that not one member of Congress managed to squeeze in a visit to frozen Buffalo during last Christmas's recess. This would seem to demonstrate that the wretched town's high unemployment and crumbling steel plants do not constitute a serious political situation when there is snow on the ground.

But members of Congress did go to Boca Raton, in Florida, and to Las Vegas, there to ponder politics on the sun-soaked tennis court and golf course, all expenses paid by those who needed to whisper in Congress's ear.

Common Cause calls these junkets "the hottest trend in Washington influence peddling", which its researchers uncovered by studying hundreds of 1985 congressional financial disclosure statements.

The "speaking fee" is a time-honoured institution, a way of seizing a congressman's attention, giving him a day or two out of town and a cheque for \$2,000 or more by way of thanks. But it is being surpassed by the luxurious junket, with fancy hotels and sumptuous meals, sometimes with the family invited along.

Some examples: Senator David Durenberger, a Minnesota Republican and member of the Senate Finance Committee, took his two sons

When winter comes, some US congressmen discover urgent — and well-paid — business that calls them away to warmer climates



on a six-day trip to Puerto Rico during New Year's week at the expense of two groups seeking to protect tax credits for US corporations that operate there.

Senator and Mrs Max Baucus, Representative Nick Rahall (with guest) and Representative and Mrs Glenn Anderson went on an expenses-paid Caribbean cruise in August, courtesy of three cruise lines that are concerned about legislation affecting the industry.

Representative Barbara Kennedy and her husband had a six-day stay in March at Pebble Beach near Carmel, California, paid for by the Connecticut Business and Industry Association.

Under ethics rules members must not accept gifts worth more than \$100 from groups, individuals or corporations with a direct interest in federal laws, although members can be reimbursed with travel expenses incurred in connection with speaking engagements and fact-finding trips. The rules explicitly forbid members accepting holidays or gifts from groups that have a direct interest in legislation before congress.

Common Cause argues that by using creative interpretations of the rules, many members and special interest groups have found a way to cloak free family holidays in the guise of legitimate reimbursements for speaking and fact-finding trips. "In many cases, particularly in the House of Representatives, members fail to report essential information about their travels, making it difficult for the Press or the public to learn who is taking whom where and at what expense," it notes.

Few members, for example, divulge the dollar value of the trips on their annual financial disclosure statements, nor how long they stayed.

Representative Dan Rostenkowski, chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee — who was severely criticized in 1982 when it was revealed that he spent more than 45 days out of town at special interest groups' expense — no longer provides details of his destinations on his disclosure form. But in 1985 he reported reimbursement for 36 trips.

Rostenkowski's outside earnings are legendary on Capitol Hill. An ordinary congressman earns \$75,100, and honoraria are limited to 30 per cent of that. Anything more must be given to charity. In 1984 Rostenkowski pulled in \$93,800, which rose to \$137,500 last year: charities do well out of him.

The speaking fee has become an honourable way for a member of Congress to add \$25,000 to his basic income (which all congressmen regard as being ridiculously low), but the newly arrived junker seems a shady addition to the influence-buying business.

Christopher Thomas
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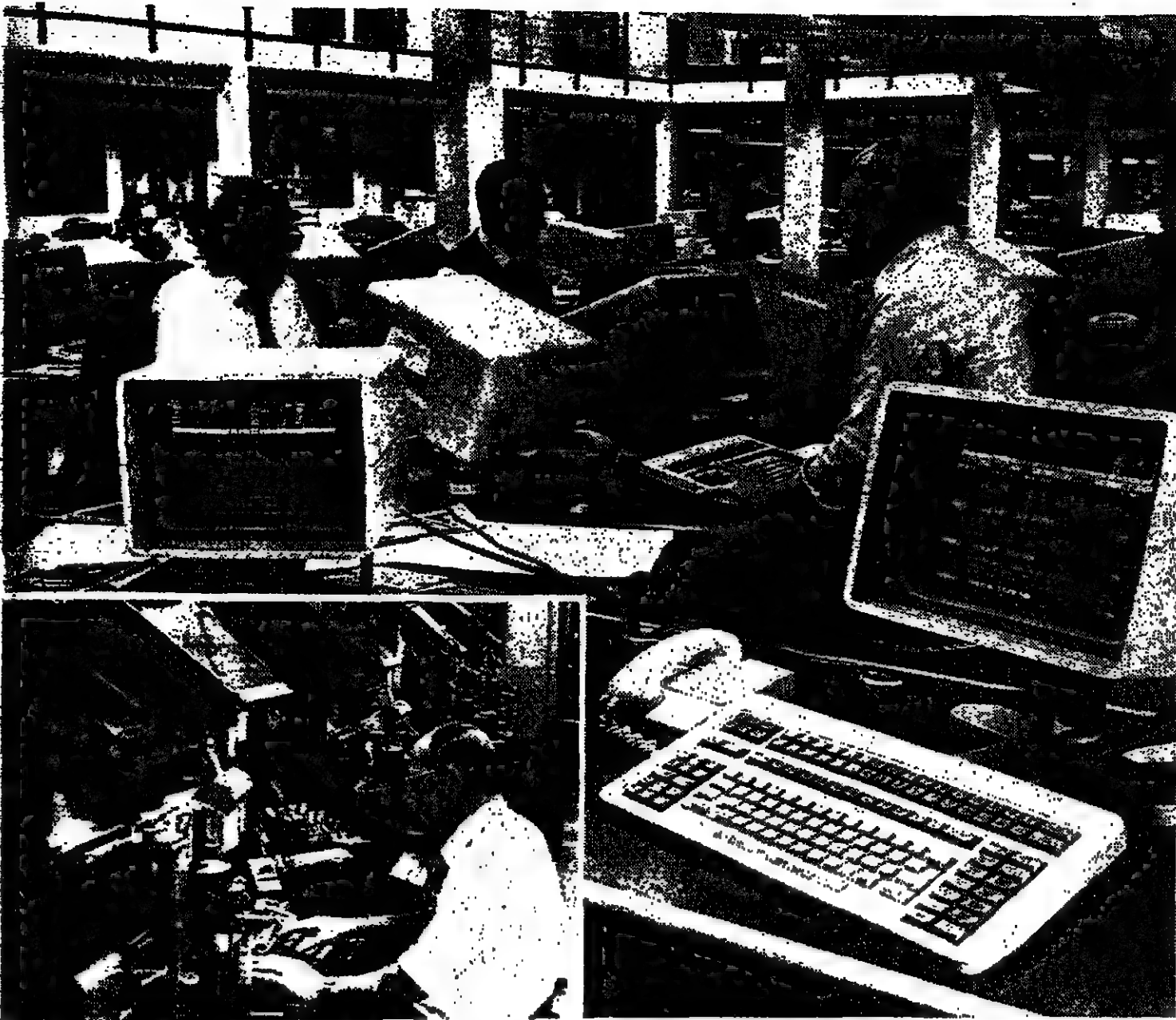
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ing that launched the Post



The print revolution: linotype operators (inset) used to set stories into metal type; now journalists use computerized keyboards and screens

space between lines — a compositor could set 50 lines and be paid as if he had set 250. Disputes were not only about money and conditions; they often involved the content of the papers. Fleet Street trade unions donated more than £1 million during the 1984-85 miners' strike; there was a feeling of pessimism that if the miners lost the printers would be next. Throughout the strike the *Sun* stridently supported the Government and some editorials and stories enraged union activists.

In January 1984, during the miners' overtime ban, the *Sun* decided to run a ballot: "Miners. Tell us what you really think. This is the ballot Arthur Scargill won't give you." The ballot form was set

in metal but John Brown, Imperial Father of the composing room (head of all the Chapels combined) told the man putting the story into the page to stop work.

There was a heated row between Brown and Kelvin MacKenzie, Editor of the *Sun*, in which Brown demanded that MacKenzie run a disclaimer from the union. After two hours, MacKenzie agreed and he was also forced to run a 300-word article by Scargill the next day.

On another occasion MacKenzie refused to back down when the unions would not handle an editorial which said that too many miners, having been the salt of the earth, had become "the scum of the earth". The dispute eventually

kept the *Sun* off the streets for four days, much of it because of a row over which chapels should and should not be paid for the night the dispute began.

It was against this background that Murdoch had called the New York meeting. It ended late in the afternoon and Murdoch's executives left with much to do. One key executive, John Keating, Murdoch's technical director, had a phone call to make that would change the face of the British newspaper industry forever.

© Linda Melvern 1986

Extracted from *The End of the Street*, by Linda Melvern, to be published by Methuen on October 27 at £9.95

TOMORROW



Project X: how £10m worth of computer equipment was set up in secret

Foul-mouthed fury

When commenting on the problems he faced with the British print unions, Rupert Murdoch would frequently mention one machine room at *The Sunday Times*. 500 people were employed there. I could never count more than 60 people at work at the same time. There wasn't much work going on.

On Saturday, January 11 this year — two weeks before the strike started — some *Sunday Times* printers saw the second edition copy announcing that a special supplement would be printed at Wapping a week later. They visited the machine room to see Roy "Ginger" Wilson, Wilson, Father of the *Sunday Times* Sogat machine Chapel, had a legendary reputation. He had once swum the Thames for a bet and emerged so filthy that his men took him back to the machine room and threw buckets of water over him.

An enormous, bullish man with a thick neck and huge hands, his closely-cropped hair is still sandy, though he is nearing sixty. His language is appalling. He seemed always on the verge of explosion. "What have you done about it?" Wilson asked when he read the copy for the special section. "You've set the f— thing I suppose?" Wilson was becoming fed up with other chapels in the building always relying on the machine men for action. After the composers had left his office, Brenda Dean rang. She told him there were certain guarantees and that Wilson's men should print. "I was choked," he said.

But Wilson did not leave it there. He toured the building in a rage until he found Bill Gillespie, then managing director of Times Newspapers, who was with Bill O'Neill, Murdoch's vice-president for personnel and labour relations. "I went potty," said Wilson. He told them they were dirty bastards. "You've taken the piss out of me." An overseer was so frightened he left the room.

"Who do you think you are?" Wilson said to O'Neill, who was wearing a sou'wester with the words "Boston Bears" on the front. "You're a bully boy and you're going to f— well come unstuck. If you do this again you won't get any movement at all."

Wilson had met O'Neill during negotiations over the *Post* in October last year. "He called us 'you guys'," said Wilson. "If there's one thing I can't stand it's



Roy "Ginger" Wilson, head of the Sunday Times machine men

yankee talk like that. He said it (the confrontation over Wapping) would be like a gunfight and when the dust had settled, whoever was left standing had won. I told him I'd shoot him in the back."

Once, when Murdoch toured the *Sunday Times* machine room, Wilson claims to have told him: "If you don't piss off I'll do you for harassment."

He was equally abusive to Andrew Neil, Editor of *The Sunday Times*. Wilson would call him 'Andy baby' or 'Sonny'.

Although Wilson had held off on Dean's instructions over the January 12 announcement of the special supplement, he was less pliant on January 18, when the supplement was due to be printed at Wapping. The rest of the paper, as usual, was being printed at Gray's Inn Road, but Wilson told his people "they could pull it. We would put the plates on and then destroy it."

At midday on January 18, Dean called Wilson to a meeting. He left, telling the men: "Don't do f— all before I get back." Tony Dubbins of the NGA was at the meeting, along with Dean, other Sogat officials, and Tony Isaacs, Imperial Father of the *News of the World* machine room Chapel.

Dubbins told them the unions were being provoked; the ballot for a strike had already been held but they should await the result before taking action.

Wilson, said Dubbins later, "was vehement in his views". Wilson said: "They pleaded with us to print. I could not accept it. If they got the paper out with scab labour, we might as well give up the ghost." But they persuaded him — Wilson found it hard to argue with Dean. "She's a woman," he said.

But at 4pm Wilson called a meeting of his men. About 400 were there. "There was a patter of tiny feet," he recalls. "In came Bill Gillespie. He says to me 'unless you are back at work in five minutes you're all fired'. I told him if he stayed a minute longer he'd be lynched."

Wilson told his men to prepare the presses, but he also said: "Be my guest, boys — I don't expect you to pay attention to fine detail. We will do it our way tonight."

Half the edition was lost. Although the strike ballot result would not be announced until later in the week, everyone knew it would be a vote for action. When Wilson left the building at 6.30 on the Sunday morning, he thought he was entering a strike like any other.

JACK HIGGINS NIGHT OF THE FOX

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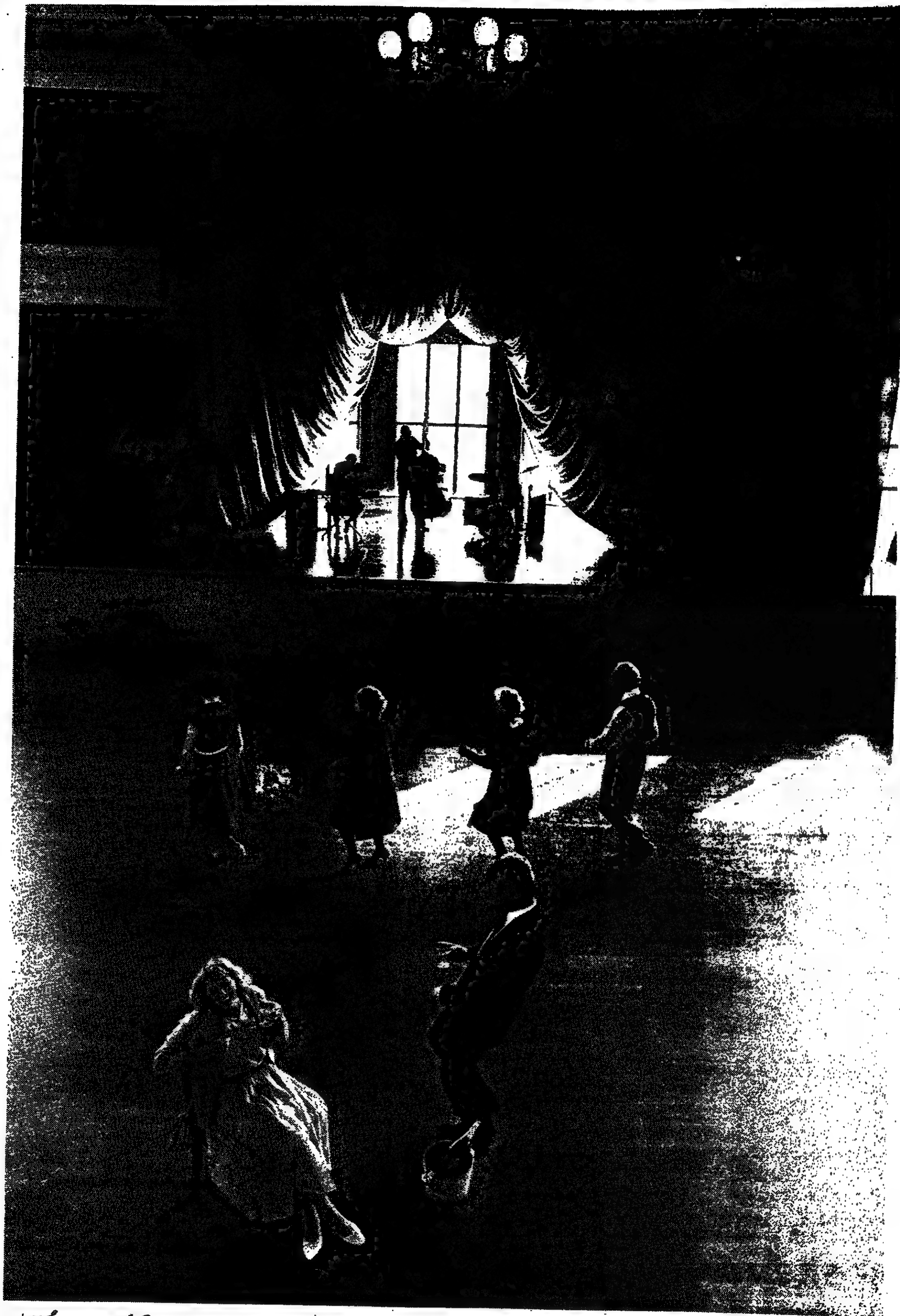
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Why not?

Lanson



Forgotten victims of murder



The murders of Karen Hadaway and Nicola Fellows (above) have left their families devastated. Peter Evans talks to parents who have suffered the same fate and have formed a group to help them cope with the grief



Sharing the heartbreak, parents whose children have been murdered: (from left) John Patient, Ann Robinson, June Patient, Wendy Turner, Margaret Buttle, John Turner, John Buttle, Daphne Vaughan, Peter Robinson and Joyce Sadler

People may cross the road to avoid speaking to them. They need the chance of help, but almost no one knows what to give. They are the Parents of Murdered Children, and their lives will never be the same again. The group, which is helping 43 families of children in many parts of Britain who were victims of murder or manslaughter, provides them with a chance to come to terms with themselves.

People tend to avoid parents of murdered children because, if they have not shared the experience, they do not know what it is like or are not quite sure what to say; they want to steer clear of something too big for them to cope with. "It makes you feel isolated", parents say, "like a leper". Mr John Patient, who lost a daughter, said of those who passed by: "If only someone had just waved and gone on I could have accepted it." Mrs Heather Howden, a member of the group, actually takes the initiative to put people at ease.

The group is a way out of isolation. The parents say they can let their hair down, laugh or cry or release their anger in a safe environment. Beneath the conviviality of a meeting in the Enfield home of one murder victim there was obvious pain and tension, a search to come to terms with the horror they have experienced. Eight families were represented that afternoon.

Above all they can talk about their children almost as if they were alive, passing photographs round like any other family. Mrs Ann Robinson, the group's co-ordinator, said: "We feel that because we have come together, all the children have come together too."

Mr David Howden, who lost his daughter Tessa, aged 19, on January 10, said: "You can't accept that all that love and those thoughts and aspirations have gone." His wife has read books on reincarnation.

Most of the parents have been to spiritualists. One said: "You go for

confirmation that there is life after death." There are mixed feelings about religion. Mrs Margaret Buttle, whose son was killed, said: "Why did I bring up my kids in a Christian way, when this can happen?" Because of the strength of her feelings towards his assailant, she does not go to church anymore. She cannot ask to have her trespasses forgiven as she would forgive those who have trespassed against her. "I would feel a hypocrite", she said.

When there is a murder the rest of the family suffers too, not least because parents are frightened to let children out of their sight. They suffer nightmares and one girl, now 17, said: "My childhood ended at nine when my brother was murdered."

Lives can be shattered. One parent has, through ill-health as a result of his daughter's death, sacrificed more than £20,000 in lost business.

Anniversaries are the worst times. Mrs Robinson said a lot of the feelings the parents had would arise over the death of any child, no matter how it occurred. "The part that is so difficult to come to terms with is the sheer horror of the way they actually die. I have physically vomited because the anniversary is coming up."

She was in Germany with her soldier husband when her son, aged 13, was murdered on his way to a youth club.

Christmas brings few tidings of comfort and joy, rather a bleak sense of loss. Mr Jack Heathfield said his 28-year-old daughter died on October 9, 1981. "Nobody got

any presents. There was no more Christmas shopping. No Christmas meal. We do have one now. But now it is just another feast. It is false."

Mrs Buttle said: "I have never put up decorations." Tragedy has drawn Mrs Daphne Vaughan and Mrs Joyce Sadler together in their expressions of grief. Robert Vaughan, aged 17, and Michelle Sadler, of the same age, were killed in February 1984. "They are both buried in the same grave," Mrs Sadler said. "We were only allowed to see them once, at the Coroner's Court at Southwark. That was through a glass screen. We would have liked to see them a couple more times."

She took a photograph of Michelle to put in the coffin. "Unless I'm picked up I have to take two buses to go to the cemetery. I go once a fortnight. I also go on the day they were murdered and on their birthdays with Mr and Mrs Vaughan. It was Robert's 20th birthday on August 15."

Speaking from her home, Mrs Sadler said: "I sit here for hours. I think about what she had gone through. We never knew the motive. I suffer from a blocked memory. I imagine it was the shock. I can't sleep. I'm frightened of being alone."

Though she praised the police for the way they looked after the mourners at the funeral, and Mrs Vaughan said they were marvellous in supporting them at the trial, there were misgivings. Mrs Vaughan said: "I felt threatened by the police attitude. You don't know how to behave. I expected the police to be sympathetic, but they weren't. I understand now that that is the system, because we could have done it - that's how they look at it. But later they were extremely sympathetic."

The ambivalence towards police and other officialdom came out most strongly in cases that had happened abroad. Samantha,

daughter of John and Wendy Turner, was murdered in France while studying A level French on an exchange from a college. Mr and Mrs Turner and the French police were under the impression that they would be met by someone from the British Embassy in Paris, but they were not. "We phoned the embassy for help while we were there but they didn't help, and we complained afterwards through an MP. They said they had done everything they could in getting her out of the country."

Mr and Mrs Turner say they were told by the police to go home after being shown the scene of the murder

'We had no one to come, like a social worker, and offer a shoulder we could have leant on'

and the body in the mortuary. "We refused to leave unless we took her body with us." They had to pay for a private aircraft to get Samantha's body out as expensively as possible. It cost £2,000.

The 13-year-old daughter of John and June Patient was in New Zealand with them when she was murdered. Mr Patient is a roofer. It cost twice as much as the passenger fare to bring their daughter home with them. Her assailant has never been caught.

One of the most distressing aspects of their case is that they do not know to whom to turn for information. They say there is no one to answer questions at the main police station in Auckland. Mr Patient said: "I wrote 10 weeks ago asking for my daughter's earnings and ring. I have had no reply."

Mr Heathfield had the appalling experience of finding his daughter's body in a boiler-room under her flat in Camberwell, south-west London.

Her flat was empty and she had not gone to work. After persistent calls to the police station, he said, they told him they would put her on the missing list. "We had no one to come, like a social worker, and offer a shoulder we could have leant on. Although we were Christians we were not church-goers, but the local vicar got to hear of the problem and came to us."

The group is within Compassionate Friends, a self-help organization for bereaved parents. The National Association of Victims Support Schemes is providing experience and backing. A project has been set up in Essex to give more aid to families of murder and manslaughter victims. Other agencies involved include police, the probation service and Cruse, which handles all kinds of bereavement.

Miss Helen Reeves, director of NAVSS, said it dealt with the police, courts, compensation and possibly funerals. If necessary it would refer people either to Cruse or Compassionate Friends.

Now NAVSS has decided to provide, in London, the first inner-city counselling scheme to help families of murder victims. "We want 12 experienced people to work voluntarily with them," Miss Reeves said. "We want a paid person to set up a training programme, co-ordinate work and monitor it."

The need is urgent. "We have so many strong emotions and irrational thoughts and feelings," Mrs Robinson said. "Some people think they are going out of their minds and it helps them to know other people with similar feelings. Because there are people in the same position it gives you hope. For the first two or three years you feel you don't want to live, then you have other responsibilities to keep you going. I know of only two bereaved parents, not in the group, who have committed suicide. Most of them do find some sort of inner strength to go on."

The plain truth about beauty

American research confirms what we have always thought: a woman's face is often her fortune

If you believe that psychologists have a solicitor's fluency to make the obvious sound profound, take heart from the results of some American research. The findings reveal that very attractive women have a decided advantage over their less attractive peers, and that Aristotle was right when he concluded that beauty was a better recommendation than any letter of introduction.

These and other truisms are contained in the successful doctoral thesis, "Benefits Of Beauty", submitted by one Ms Deborah Then, who studied social and organizational psychology at the Stanford University School of Education in California. (One would have thought that average eyesight and even a cursory acquaintance with the films and TV programmes of nearby Hollywood would have rendered such a dissertation superfluous, but then it is never easy to select an acceptable topic for a PhD thesis.)

In fairness to doughty Deborah, it must be said that when she was discussing her plans with her professor, he (of course) dismissed the idea of measuring the impact of physical attractiveness as an unimportant woman's issue. But when she came back to tell him she had decided to go ahead, she found him leafing through photographs of undergraduates and complaining there were no good-looking women among them. After that, there was no stopping Ms Then.

She set about her research with vigour and discipline. First she collected 99 photographs (why not 100?) of students attending a business school in Eastern USA. It is explicitly stated they were all smiling Caucasians, in obvious defiance of the "black is beautiful" proposition. None wore glasses, in possible defiance to Dorothy Parker's warning that "men don't make passes at women in glasses", and none (women or men) sported any facial hair. Twelve Stanford students, six males and six females, were then asked to judge the looks of each person on a scale of one to five.

From this original batch, Ms Then selected 12 photographs for the final test. These were split into three groups of four, judged by the previous panel as being "very attractive", "average" and "very unattractive". Armed with these photos of six men and six women, Ms Then attached them to a fictitious curriculum vitae and asked 72 Stanford students (divided into 35 males and 37 females) to assess the applicants (a) as

suitable co-workers and (b) as a potential friend or date.

After all that effort and time, Ms Then found that broadly speaking most people considered beauty to be very important, though "average-looking" women topped the list of desired co-workers (followed by average-looking men). This supported her thesis that "in work-related evaluations, neither extremely attractive nor unattractive individuals are desired as co-workers... because in some work situations, men and women don't want the distraction of an exceptionally good-looking co-worker."

Less surprisingly, very attractive females topped the list of most desired friends, with very unattractive females at the bottom of the league table. The same gradation applied to potential dates. As Ms Then primly puts it: "Social desirability seems to be in direct proportion to any individual's physical attractiveness." But she detected a significant difference between the attitudes of the two sexes: "Men tend to prize



beauty more, while women cite a man's earning capacity as the most important criterion for 'date-selection', confirming what many a luckless Lothario has discovered to his not insignificant cost.

In a valiant effort to placate militant feminists and give hope to plain Janes, Ms Then says we should not become paranoid about our looks. But women should be aware of the contradictory demands made on them by a male-oriented society: they must be attractive to be desirable but are considered vain if they care about their looks. She argues that it is society which stresses the importance of good looks, and not women, who are simply reacting to a world in which men set the standards.

Unfortunately, Ms Then makes no suggestions as to how this state of affairs could be changed. Until she or another psychologist comes up with the answer "average and very unattractive women might find solace in the words of Socrates that beauty is nothing but a short-lived tyranny".

Andrew Wiseman

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From Miss Silvie Tott, Henbury House, Wiltshire. Bath, Wiltshire.

I read Colin Duncan on friendship (Wednesday Page, October 8) with a degree of concern. The article undermines the depth of feeling which often exists between women friends, by portraying the frivolous manner in which such relationships are formed.

Men may well be more reticent and selective when making friends, but this does

TALKBACK

not mean that they value them more. It indicates rather that they take longer in deciding with whom they have the most in common, and whether he will prove to be a valuable friend.

This takes time. Women are neither willing, nor particularly capable, of dealing with long gaps of loneliness and will therefore make many acquaintances. This inherent

gregariousness does not always result in "flippant raptures".

It just allows us the freedom of wider choice, to find the few close and trustworthy friends we too cherish for life.

From Rosemary Anderson, Broadway Lane, Fladbury, Farnham, Wiltshire.

Colin Duncan is to be congratulated on bringing to the public the qualities of journalism of a bygone age. Do bring us more.

A recipe for drudgery

I know a woman who has mastered domestic technology. Her fully-equipped kitchen lacks only a set of sharp knives to be the envy of Anton Mossimani. But she doesn't notice the absence of a single Sabatier, since she made certain that her self-cleaning oven is big enough to take the caterers' trays which are brought in whenever she entertains at home. When she isn't, she eats out. The only thing that woman can make for dinner is a table reservation.

Well, at least she can claim that her oven is truly labour-saving, which is more than I can. Since my stove can switch itself on in my absence, there is no excuse for me not to prepare a stew at the crack of dawn, to be magically heated-up while I'm away. So bang goes the excuse that since I've been out all day it would be a good idea to go to McDonalds.

I groan whenever a new appliance gets itself invented. Soup was something that came out of a tin, without anyone complaining, before you were able to buy an electrical beater which turned your leftover vegetables into sludge and left you with an electrical beater to wash up.

Ice cream and waffles were treats you went out for until it became possible to make them both without moving from your own kitchen, which means you spend even more time in it.

I don't suppose there is a woman in the world who can claim that now she has a washing-machine, microwave and coffee-bean grinder, she has the time to take a job, lover, or lengthy bubble-bath. Far from it. Once the washing-machine is installed, you stop sending everything to the dry cleaner. You even inspect the label inside a skirt before buying it to check that it is machine-washable. And since this is probably the last thing on Jasper Conran's mind when designing his collection,



PENNY PERRICK

you can end up looking a lot less chic than formerly, as well as frittering away your life stuffing unfashionable bits of Courtelle through your front-loader.

More washing means more ironing, more folding, more hanging-up and putting away. Washing-machine ownership also means that dirt appears before your eyes where none did before. Table-mats are whisked into the laundry-basket on account of an almost invisible gravy stain, where once they would have received a quick dab with a damp cloth.

Children are removed from a muddy garden, changed from top to toe and sent out to play in the mud again. Domestic appliances are about as liberating as being taken away in a Black Maria.

Enslaved by domestic technology as we are, there is no point pinning for the days of *Upstairs, Downstairs*. I have just read a profile of the writer Molly Keane who, when she married in 1938, employed a cook, a groom and a butler. Hours of her days were taken up with planning the menus and when agreement had finally been reached, the cook would deliver the clincher. "And what is to be for dinner

in the servants' hall, Madam?"

Whether you run an attic full of servants or a fully-automatic living capsule, if you are in sole charge of all the domestic *thinking*, your life will never be your own. Survey after survey shows that men are not pulling their weight as far as household management goes, even if their wives have jobs outside the home. I do not think this is because men are selfish, uncaring brutes; they just lack foresight and perspicacity. If asked they will change a nappy or cook the supper. But, without prompting, it does not occur to them that the baby is soddened or that, come 8pm, the family is going to start feeling peckish. So rather than waste time explaining such things to their uncomprehending ears, their wives find it easier to do everything themselves.

Until Thinking Ahead is taught co-educationally to A-level standard, there is no answer to the domestic dilemma beyond getting richer beyond the dreams of avarice and making liberal use of the caterer, the dry-cleaner and the interior design consultant.

Anyone for the new knees up?

There is nothing as uplifting as hearing about a problem that you haven't got, so I was delighted to come across the term "squatting patellas", which isn't a new kind of cigar but knees that turn and face each other. If you suffer from this affliction, you are warned not to indulge in the new exercise craze, which is called low-impact aerobics.

My knees stick straight out like two knobby skulls but I have no intention of indulging in low-impact aerobics either. Knees get quite enough exercise as one occasionally crosses one's legs during an evening's lying about on a sofa.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1084

ACROSS	1. Melodious sounds (5)	4. Dough roll (7)	8. Sainly reminder (5)	9. Young chicken (7)	10. Lear's youngest daughter (3)	11. Rage (4)	13. Chance (11)	17. Responsibility (4)	18. Sharp manner (3)	22. Dense (7)	23. Frequently (5)	24. Withdrawn (7)	
DOWN	1. Musical shaker (6)	2. Soap related (5)	3. Flowerpot container (3)	4. Cultured (13)	5. Swack bees (4)	6. Sicken (7)	7. Delay departure (6)	12. Poison neutralizer (8)	14. Plunge (7)	15. Football (6)	16. Young swan (6)	19. Tarika animal (5)	20. Just (4)

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Lost for words

Government officials who attend a meeting at the English Speaking Union in London today should not be surprised by the absence of the main speaker, General Indarjit Rikhye. A distinguished Indian soldier and former military adviser to the United Nations, he has fallen foul of the new visa restrictions which have resulted in huge queues at Heathrow. Rikhye was due to speak on "Western Europe and Peacekeeping Worldwide", but was told in Bombay that the new rules made his visit to London impossible; he promptly left for America, where he now lives. When I contacted his wife in New York last night, she was diplomatically unforthcoming. Organizers of the meeting were more blunt: "It's an international scandal", said one.

● This charming cartoon of toothpaste was brought from Hong Kong by a colleague. And Haringey thinks it has problems with black coffee and blackboards.



Kitcatt break

MPs will return to the Commons tomorrow to find that the Speaker is about to appoint a new secretary. The congenial Bill Beaumont is to retire soon, and his successor will be Peter Kitcatt, a senior civil servant who until last Friday was the Treasury's watchdog on defence spending. This may be something of a break for Kitcatt who, if not as brittle as his confectionary namesake, keeps his flavour under wraps. "I am very much looking forward to it," he told me yesterday. And then, with all the self-projection of a Sir Geoffrey Howe, "I have a very ordinary Civil Service background." And yet, at the age of 58 he is taking on a daunting job, for which a flat in the Palace of Westminster is at least some compensation for the ghastly hours. If Kitcatt runs into difficulties during the early days, help will always be near at hand: he lives in Croydon, the north-east of which is Bernard Weatherill's own constituency.

● Since when has freedom been a thing of shame? An ad for the right-wing Freedom Association inviting readers to send for its booklet "exposing Marx and Engels as racists" ends: "It will be sent to you in a plain cover".

Double-edged

With the grind of another parliamentary session almost upon her, Mrs Thatcher must be looking forward with ever keener anticipation to retirement to her Georgian fortress in Dulwich. But a word of caution. In its latest newsletter, the local Labour Party points out that Dulwich is the second most marginal Tory seat in London (1983 majority 1,859) and confidently asserts: "Mrs Thatcher will be represented by a Labour MP." Good knockabout politics that could, however, rebound. Faced with such a prospect, she might decide to stay at No 10 for ever.



Barry Fantoni

No latitude

It may be a question of degree but there is an unholy fuss going on in Rome over the siting of the city's first mosque. A miscalculation means that the recently completed building points towards Tel Aviv instead of Mecca. The Italian architect is trying to placate angry Muslims while at the same time keeping his building intact... to say nothing of his reputation.

● One dish the Queen was not offered in her sea slug meal with the Chinese president was Keluga caviar. The pearl-grey eggs from the giant sturgeon caught in the Amur river are for export only. And no exceptions.

Untouchables

At the exhibition of his "Greenland" paintings, Paul Hogarth tells me of a letter Graham Greene wrote Hogarth on his return from painting a leper colony in Zaire, hoping he would not suffer the response Greene had from Edith Sitwell when he came back from a similar colony, the basis of his novel *A Burnt-Out Case*. Edith refused to kiss him.

PHS

Seven months to May 1987: 12 months to October 1987: 19 to May 1988. By any reckoning the next election is not far away. British election campaigns are brief and the exact date is seldom announced more than a month in advance. But they always cast a long shadow before — and it seems to be getting longer. In the United States every fourth year of government is paralysed by a presidential election. By the time we cast our votes on the party to lead Britain into the 1990s we may feel we have gone through a similarly elongated trauma.

Last May Ladbroke was quoted as saying that Labour, at 11-8 on, as favourites to get most seats. Today the Conservatives, at 13-8 on, are preferred. The odds will certainly move again. We have got used to volatile voters.

Five years ago, within a mere 18 months each of the parties at one point dropped to 27 per cent or less in the polls and at another touched 50 per cent. During the 1983 campaign Alliance support went down to 13 per cent and up to 28 per cent. Within the last year, each of the three parties has been on top in more than one national survey.

Polls this year do suggest a new stabilization. Since Neil Kinnock became leader, Labour has never fallen below a third of the vote in MORI's monthly polls and since January has stayed between 36 and 37 per cent. The Alliance in that time has registered between 20 and 29 per cent. But a continuation of this general stability cannot be taken for granted.

The basic arithmetic of the next election is worth repeating. Assuming uniform nationwide movements from the 1983 results, Labour and the Conservatives alike need at least 38 per cent of the vote to get a clear majority with 326 seats; the Alliance, with its strength more evenly spread, must get a daunting 42 per cent.

As Labour and the Conservatives strive for that goal, neither knows how to treat the Alliance's supporters. Should they be won over with smiles and soft words? Or are they to be hounded roughly with the risk that they might be driven into the rival pen? So far both Conservative and Labour have done their best to

The recent correspondence about bats may well have provided for many people the first intimation that it is now a serious criminal offence, with substantial penalties, to disturb a bat; if you find a colony of bats in your loft and take them, gently and without even frightening them, to a hollow tree in your garden, you are liable to be prosecuted and fined up to £1,000. I am not making this up, and it is not a joke. The bat law was slipped, a year or two ago, into a wider measure; but however it got there, nobody in Parliament pointed out that it was an outrage, so Britain now has a law which makes a criminal out of anyone found guilty of annoying a bat.

That does have its comic side. I agree, though its implications are not in the least funny. And I want to mention another episode which has a number of similarities to the bat story. You may recall that the measure originally proposed for making compulsory the wearing of seat-belts in the front of motor-cars was defeated in Parliament.

Normally, such a defeat would have been accepted (compare the rejection of the Sunday trading proposals), but the lobby which was determined to compel motorists to fasten their seat-belts refused to abandon their campaign, and they had only to wait a short while for victory.

There is no point in going over that argument again, but there has been an important sequel. No mention was made by the seat-belt lobby during the campaign of extending the legislation to passengers in the back seats; we were carefully given to understand that the lobby had no further demands. But as soon as the measure became law, they began to demand that it should be extended. Whether it is good or bad to fasten seat-belts in the back of a car is not the point; the point will be how we were compelled to, and by whom, and with what motives they acted.

I have never believed that our democracy is likely to fall in a coup organized by Mr Bernie Grant, Mr Ted Knight and Mr Derek Hatton; our political centre of gravity is set reassuringly low. (Though we should bear in mind that after the next general election, even if the Labour Party does not win it, there will be scores of MPs who reject parliamentary democracy altogether.) The frontal assault on our society can be frontal, met, and contained; but there is also the indirect approach to be considered.

I have written a good deal, in the last couple of years, about the Single Issue Fanatics, those monomaniacal figures whose entire lives are given over to one, usually very narrow, cause, and in whose seething brains there has grown up the notion that their cause permits them any action whatever, including serious criminal damage to property and physical violence to people. But I believe that these groups, though they are much more than a nuisance, will not seriously harm our society or our democracy. But there is another route into the citadel, and it is, at present at least, not well guarded.

We are familiar with extremists of the Right and extremists of the Left. Now, I think, it is time to face the fact that we are in danger from extremists of the Centre.

These are people who would never commit crimes for their cause, much less injure other human beings; they do not have the blind stare and unreachable mind of the Single Issue Fanatics; they are even, in some ways, admirable citizens. But what makes them dangerous is their suffocating sense of their own rectitude.

The new army of the Righteous are few in number, but great and growing in influence. Unlike the

Guessing game all round in quest for votes

by David Butler

ignore the Alliance. It was notable how little of the oratory at Blackpool and at Bournemouth was directed against the two Davids and their followers. (Since two out of three Conservative MPs had an Alliance candidate as runner-up in 1983, this stood out starkly at Bournemouth.)

If in the next election the Conservative and Labour guns stay trained on each other, and they score hits on each other's credibility, where will the disillusioned voters go? Surely they are more likely to take refuge in the Alliance's middle-of-the-road haven than to cross to the other side.

However, for the moment Tories and Labour come out of the conference season with far more grounds for optimism than the Alliance. The Conservatives are united and cheerful and breathing down Labour's neck in the polls. One has to go back 33 years to find a governing party in a better position 18 months before an election.

Yet the Conservatives do have to cope with their record on

unemployment and their "uncaring" image. They are seen less favourably than Labour on all the key welfare issues — health, education, housing and pensions. They preside over an economy with an uncertain outlook. They are, as the party in power, more liable to be the victims of unforeseen mishaps or scandals. And after seven years in office they cannot readily put the blame on others.

Labour can claim that Neil Kinnock now looks a true party leader and that his party is more united, and with a higher standing in the polls, than at almost any point in the last decade. Yet despite Kinnock's skilful management, Labour can never be sure that its own divisions will not discredit it, with left-wingers presenting ammunition to the enemy. More seriously, the polls suggest that Labour is vulnerable on the central issues of disarmament ("Labour will leave us defenceless") and higher public spending ("Where's the money coming from?").

There is also the spectre of what the stock market and foreign exchanges might do if, as the vote drew near, the polls were forecasting a Labour victory. Would an avalanche of selling and a flight of capital provoke a robust rallying of support or, more probably, a switch of allegiance?

The Alliance has not had a good month but it can point to the summer by-elections — triumph at Ryedale and near-misses in West Derbyshire and Newcastle-under-Lyme. In the by-elections this year (and indeed of the whole parliament) the Alliance has won appreciably more votes than either Conservative or Labour, and in local by-elections it also does well. Its weakness in recent opinion polls may obscure an underlying strength.

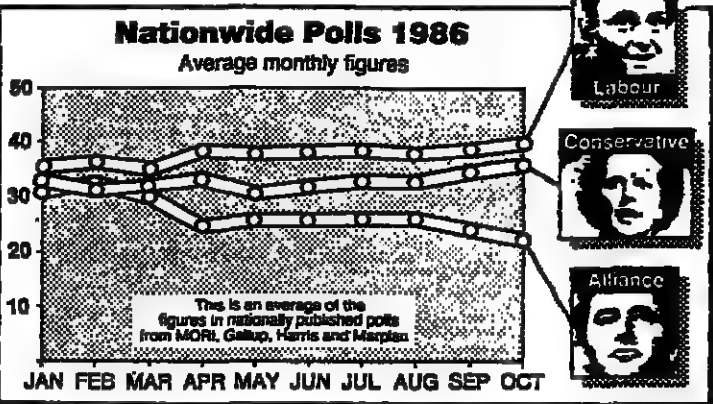
However, the Alliance, dependent upon disillusion with Labour and even more with the Conservatives, must feel uneasy. The big parties have formidable resources. The Liberal assembly vote on defence was a damaging blow. Owen and Steel will doubtless patch up a compromise, and when the election comes and gives them a fair share of time on the box they may count on their telegraphic charm to win back some support. But in the last resort they may be crowded out of the big battle unless one or both of the major contenders mishandles its case.

The uncertainties are manifold. As the past week has shown, summery, in which Britain has no part, can transform the defence argument. Oil politics and world price movements, which Britain cannot influence, can transform the economic situation. By-elections, party squabbles or, alas, terrorist bombs can transform the political scene.

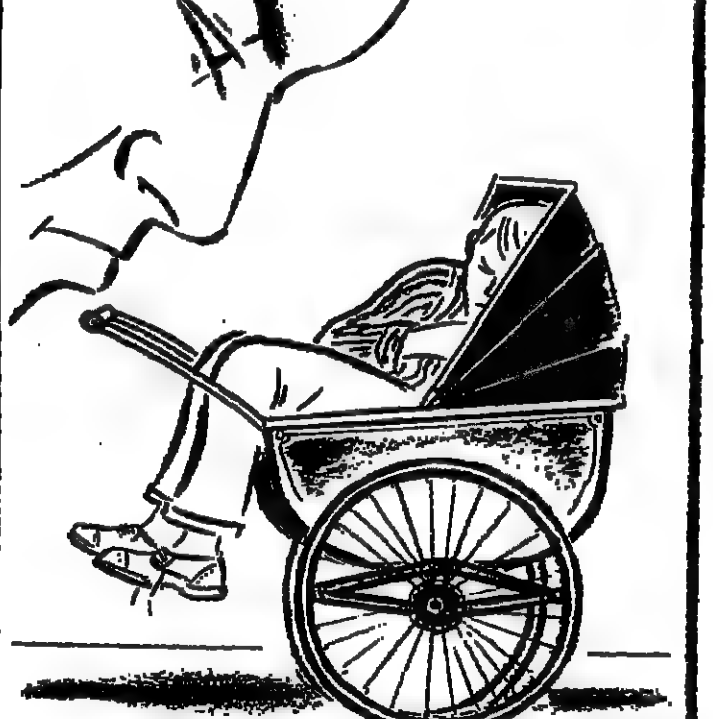
Over the past month my own betting odds have marginally changed to favour the Conservatives. Today I would suggest that it is 40 per cent likely that the election will produce a hung parliament; 35 per cent likely that there will be a clear Conservative majority; and 25 per cent that there will be a clear Labour majority. Only one thing is certain: those probabilities will alter several times between now and polling day.

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The author is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.



Keep Nanny strapped in the back seat



familiar enemies of freedom, and most of the Single Issue Fanatics, they rarely claim to speak for millions; they claim only, but implacably, that they know what is best for us all. These people are the Moral Minority; they have no regard for democracy, not because they are totalitarian at heart but because they are so unshakably convinced that theirs, and theirs alone, is the right path, that they will go to any lengths to impose upon millions who reject their beliefs the obligation to conform to them.

I do not exaggerate their conviction: one of the less discussed aspects of the Honeyford affair was revealed in a thoughtful, impartial and well-researched study of it published when it was all over. The dominant characteristic of those running the campaign against Mr Honeyford was found to be that they were literally unable to conceive of the possibility that they might be wrong.

Let us now look in some detail at the aims and methods of the Moral Minority. Its most obvious sub-division — in their behaviour probably also the nastiest — are the anti-smoking extremists, whose language and demands have long since taken on the full flavour of the persecutor; of course, smoking is very dangerous, but they are not content to point out to those actually or potentially in danger, let alone to help and encourage them to abandon or resist the habit. No, they know what is right for us, and they will not rest until they have made smoking a criminal offence: the argument that in a democracy adults should be allowed to decide such matters for themselves simply cannot be got into their heads, for at heart they are simply not democrats.

Nor — and they will soon be as powerful and nasty as the anti-smoking extremists — are the food extremists, that pestilent group who are in turn unable to confine themselves to pointing out the

unhealthy nature of much of what we eat, and insisting that the contents of packaged food should be fully and intelligibly described; they, too, are now demanding that we must be forbidden to eat the things they think are bad for us.

Some of the Moral Minority's actions are far worse, because they attack democracy at the roots. Anyone who followed the scandal of the recent archaeological congress at Southampton University, from which all South African participants were banned, will recognize the characteristic impulse, in this case multiplied by the now characteristic cowardice of university authorities; that impulse is in its essence no different from antisemitism, for the common element in both is that condemnation and exclusion are applied on one, irrelevant criterion. In antisemitism, a Jew is penalized for being a Jew; now consideration is given to the question of whether he is a good Jew or a bad one. Similarly, the South African archaeologists were banned because they were South Africans, not because they were lovers of apartheid. (As it chanced, they had all been consistent and outspoken opponents of it, but even if they had not been it would have made no difference to their quality as archaeologists, which is all that should have concerned the organizers.)

Nor are the Moral Minority by any means all unofficial, let alone freelance. That lazar-house, the Home Office, is crawling with them, as a glance at the case of the two-year-old Pakistani child, Khuram Azad, will make clear. The only point in the business that needs to be understood is that he would have been legally entitled to live here once certain procedures, which had long been under way but might take another month or two, were completed in Pakistan; but the Home Office insisted that he should be sent back there. (How can God hope to be taken seriously in professing a wish to be believed in, if phenom-

the stock market and foreign exchanges might do if, as the vote drew near, the polls were forecasting a Labour victory. Would an avalanche of selling and a flight of capital provoke a robust rallying of support or, more probably, a switch of allegiance?

The Alliance has not had a good month but it can point to the summer by-elections — triumph at Ryedale and near-misses in West Derbyshire and Newcastle-under-Lyme. In the by-elections this year (and indeed of the whole parliament) the Alliance has won appreciably more votes than either Conservative or Labour, and in local by-elections it also does well. Its weakness in recent opinion polls may obscure an underlying strength.

However, the Alliance, dependent upon disillusion with Labour and even more with the Conservatives, must feel uneasy. The big parties have formidable resources. The Liberal assembly vote on defence was a damaging blow. Owen and Steel will doubtless patch up a compromise, and when the election comes and gives them a fair share of time on the box they may count on their telegraphic charm to win back some support. But in the last resort they may be crowded out of the big battle unless one or both of the major contenders mishandles its case.

The uncertainties are manifold. As the past week has shown, summery, in which Britain has no part, can transform the defence argument. Oil politics and world price movements, which Britain cannot influence, can transform the economic situation. By-elections, party squabbles or, alas, terrorist bombs can transform the political scene.

Over the past month my own betting odds have marginally changed to favour the Conservatives. Today I would suggest that it is 40 per cent likely that the election will produce a hung parliament; 35 per cent likely that there will be a clear Conservative majority; and 25 per cent that there will be a clear Labour majority. Only one thing is certain: those probabilities will alter several times between now and polling day.

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The author is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

ena like David Waddington are permitted to exist?

The demonstrators who prevented even the preliminary investigation of possible sites for the burial of nuclear waste were genuinely shocked and indignant at being called, in this paper's editorial columns, "middle-class hooligans". Assuming that it was the hooligan part of the description that offended them rather than the accusation that they belong to the middle class, the reaction is significant; their belief that they are entitled to stop other people carrying out lawful business (because they, and they alone, are possessed of all the justice, morality and truth that is going) has so armoured them against any self-questioning that when the armour is so brutally pierced they feel truly, and deeply, wronged. (CND, of course, has been built almost entirely on such foundations.)

The preferred journal of opinion of the Moral Minority is *The Guardian*, as anyone will know who recalls that wonderfully sickening leader advocating the abolition of the Last Night of the Proms because singing "Land of Hope and Glory" is a moral crime even worse than drinking South African orange juice. But the Moral Minority need no tuition in smugness, certainty and an unshakable belief in the purity of their own motives.

Just listen to this, from the New York correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*:

The American television network, NBC, under pressure from feminists, has ruled that Miss Aaron's statistics are not so vital after all. As a result... American males will no longer learn bust, waist and hip measurements of the 51 contestants... The producer, Karen Aarons, is unrepentant about her decision. "Measurements are superfluous. They serve no other purpose than the public's curiosity."

You will conclude that the Moral Minority had been at work. But far more significant is the attitude of the producer: "... no other purpose than the public's curiosity". No matter that the public is what Miss Aarons is there to serve, nor even that the public pays her wages; she has decided that the public's curiosity must not be satisfied.

In these matters, Britain lags only a little behind America. There are already people here who harass and bully those who write Miss and Mrs rather than Ms, or who propose research into the respective achievements of different races, or who prefer to hire pretty stewardesses for their airlines rather than the first ones to apply, however ugly, or who run over a dog rather than risk the safety of human beings, or who prefer the interests of the living to those of posterity.

There is a widespread belief in Britain that the only threat to the stability of our democracy comes from violence. I believe that view is mistaken. But the actions of the Moral Minority, because they work more quietly and more decorously, are more difficult to detect, let alone resist. But that makes it all the more urgent that they should be resisted.

The greatest threat we face is of the Nanny State. Its agents are the Moral Minority, who believe that Nanny knows best: they will not put us in concentration camps or have us shot, but will oblige us, if they have their way, to conform to their idea of our welfare. It is therefore of the greatest importance that they shall not have their way. Shall we pledge ourselves to ensure that they do not? If you agree, let us take the pledge on Saturday, which is, most suitably, St Crispin's Day.

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Boston's great jobs party

Boston. Despite the popular European view that America's East Coast cities are getting old, tired and tatty as the "centre of gravity" moves south and west, this historic New England capital is bursting with life: flourishing business, growing populations in the new satellite "urban villages", city centre redevelopment and rapid gentrification of the rundown inner city residential streets.

What has been happening? The community college principal to whom I put the question least back and thought, while I waited for a high powered micro-economic answer. In the end he shrugged. "It's gotten trendy. Four national soap operas are based in Boston. There are colleges and universities all over the place. There are plenty of Victorian houses to do up. You can buy brick and chablis on every street corner. It's what the Yuppies like!"

Presumably they also like the Harvard bookstore cafe, not actually in Harvard but on chic Newbury Street — a wonderful place where you help yourself to muffins and bagels and recent publications and swirl them down with as much coffee as you can drink to the accompaniment of taped Haydn symphonies. It was here that I bought a book that nearly ruined my visit. Only by the greatest effort of will, having started it, did I put it down and look at Boston rather than read about its recent history.

The book is *Common Ground*, by J. Anthony Lukas. Winner of four literary awards, including the Pulitzer, it is a long narrative account of the desegregation of the Boston school system, as seen through the eyes of three real families, one Yankee, one Irish and one black. Though highly specific, its scope is wide: the history of each family over many generations, and the politics of the local Democratic Party, the Catholic Church and the civil rights movement, are all part of the story. For the student of American society, it is a feast — surprisingly not yet available in Britain.

The narrative stops in 1976, on a note of gloom. Bussing appeared to have only deepened racial antagonism, inner city crime was becoming more and more vicious, well intentioned experiments in subsidized housing and the promotion of black businesses had floundered. The reputation of the school system, not high at the start, had sunk even lower.

Visiting the city for the first time ten years later, I had the sense of history having moved on. Bussing continues, now without controversy but also without self-congratulation either. The schools are all racially mixed, though with a minority of whites; 30 per cent now compared with 60 per cent in 1972. Whether or not gentrification will alter this proportion remains to be seen; there are plenty of private schools.

But people are talking about different things. Raising standards and getting youngsters into jobs or

further education are the major preoccupations. You hear much about the "credentialed oriented society" and nowhere is it more important than in areas of high-tech growth like Boston. Many big employers and public authorities now pay tuition fees for their employees to get them back into education part-time in most cases this is linked to a "credit" towards a degree in one of the scores of public and private colleges. Education is big business.

And business is involving itself very much with education. In a remarkable turnaround, Boston is now being quoted in other cities as a model of good practice. The "Boston Compact" is an initiative taken by the Boston business community as a way of doing something about what they see as the low quality of public education. The deal struck with the school authorities in 1982 was ambitious and startlingly simple. If the schools improved their performance, business would come up with the jobs for their students — part-time and summer jobs as well as full-time jobs for high school leavers.

An intermediary organization called the Boston Private Industry Council, jointly funded by public bodies, charitable foundations and private industry, organizes the placements, through a "career specialist" in each high school, his message is simple: "Attend school and study and we will find you a job; stay away or loaf around and we won't." This gives the schools such credibility that employers are now pursuing the schools for workers rather than the other way round. The career specialists that have bargaining power. "Well, Mr Smith" (I overheard in one school), "I'll put your job on the books, but our students don't normally take that sort of work for the rate you're offering." Though the drop-out rate — the proportion leaving school before the age of 18 — is still high at 43 per cent, attendance has improved rapidly, academic performance has improved too, though more slowly.

The figures certainly indicate that industry has delivered on its side of the bargain. In 1985 93 per cent of all high school leavers were either in higher education or working full-time. Of the latter, 88 per cent had been placed through the Boston Compact. The current boom has helped, but the important fact to remember is that 70 per cent of Boston school leavers are black, Hispanic or Asian. They are sharing in the boom rather than remaining isolated in a rotting inner city core, as so often happens elsewhere.

Here is an idea for Britain. Such a scheme would be difficult to implement in areas of high unemployment, but what of London, say, or Bristol? And, a final thought for Kenneth Baker: the whole scheme runs on \$1.8 million a year. That is just over half the estimated cost of one of his proposed city technology colleges. The author is a member of the SDP national committee.

moreover... Miles Kington

Right, folk, you can quote me

People collect very odd things. I know a TV producer who collects milk bottles and I once met a man at a party who told me he collected paper clips. ("I've got sixty different ones," he said. "It doesn't sound a lot, but I never buy them — I only acquire them from other people's offices.") Nevertheless, I still think the oddest collection I ever came across was that compiled by Jack, who used to work at Gaston's Bookshop, off Holborn. He collected apostrophes.

More accurately, he collected apostrophes when they were misused. One of the better items in his collection was a sign he had spotted in South London, Joes Eat's — no apostrophe after Joe, as there should have been, but one in Eats, where there shouldn't. A double misuse of the apostrophe, or perhaps a migrating apostrophe, it gave him extreme pleasure of a perverse kind, because deep down his sensitive soul was, I am sure, quite offended by this cultural ignorance.

But the misuse of the apostrophe, especially to denote the plural, has become so widespread now — one sees it printed on menus and hand-pointed on official signs — that I am beginning to suspect we are seeing the emergence of a genuine new usage. Not a learned usage, but a folk usage. Linguists sometimes talk about something called folk etymology, whereby they mean a change of vocabulary which is due to a complete misunderstanding. Jerusalem artichoke for example, is so called because people have heard the original label, "Girasole artichoke", and assumed it must mean Jerusalem. People assume that the ham in hamburger refers to the meat, so we now have beefburger and cheeseburger.

Although wrongly derived, these words are now part of the language. And it is quite possible that wrong punctuation, folk punctuation we might call it, can also become part of the language. At least, that is the only way I can explain something else I have seen happening recently, and that is a total but fairly consistent misuse of double inverted commas. Consider these three messages I have copied down in the last month. "Excellent" house wine at £5.10

a litre. (On the blackboard at Gannet's, an Aberystwyth restaurant which would be seasonally good and cheap if it were in London.)

● Daphne is in town and will give you a good time. (Sticker in a Bayswater Road telephone box.)

● "No cheques" accepted without a "valid" cheque card. "No company cheques accepted. (Patched sign in a garage in Crickhowell, South Wales.)

Now, by the ordinary rules of punctuation, none of those misused commas makes much sense. Gannet's management may have heard someone calling their wine excellent, and decided to quote him. Daphne may regard you as fictitious or even faintly ridiculous. And it is possible that the garage staff took down a directive dictated hastily by the boss, and put into quotation marks only those words they were sure he had spoken.

But what I think has happened in each case is that the writer intended to emphasize the relevant words, and put them into inverted commas, feeling sincerely, though wrongly, that it gave the words added strength. If we rewrite the last statement as: No cheques accepted without a valid cheque card. No company cheques accepted, it looks most orthodox and makes more sense.

These are far from being the only examples I have seen, is it the arrival of a new form of folk punctuation, the emphatic inverted comma, and will it become widespread despite the agonized shrieks of embattled grammarians? Can wrong punctuation become right punctuation if enough people adopt it?

These are questions which my crystal ball does not answer. I simply think it is a matter worth raising. And before I throw away the sheet of paper on which I jotted things down during my recent trip to South Wales, here is a notice I spotted in a greasy shop in, I think, Ross-on-Wye. A masterpiece of casual tautology. I am sure you will agree.

Customers are welcome to select their own produce, if they wish. Or, as we used to say, wish.



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THE END OF THE BEGINNING?

Thirty years ago, when it became clear that the heroism of the Hungarian Revolution had been crushed by Soviet tanks, a bleakly cynical saying made its way around Eastern Europe. The Hungarians, it went, had behaved like Poles, the Poles had behaved like Czechs, and the Czechs had behaved like Swedes. Only in the Kremlin itself could such a sour witicism have prompted a smile because it described the fractured disunity of Eastern Europe which was a main prop of Soviet control.

Yesterday's joint statement by 122 leading members of the opposition movements in four European countries — Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary — is the first sign that the democratic forces of Eastern Europe may finally be overcoming their crippling divisions. It is a historic document. In time it may come to rank with the United States Declaration of Independence. Certainly the Soviet leadership, aware that its own genealogy can be traced back to small groups of apparently powerless intellectuals facing a totalitarian empire, will see it in that dramatic light.

For the joint declaration does more than merely mark the anniversary of the 1956 Revolution. It links that great popular struggle with the other struggles of East European peoples against the Soviet occupation of their lands — with the 1953 East Berlin

workers' uprising, with the 1968 Prague "Spring", and with the rise of Solidarity in Poland. Its message is that these revolts were not just explosions of nationalist sentiment, each one the distinct and separate property of a particular people, of no great significance to its neighbours. Instead, they represented what the document calls "our joint determination to struggle for political democracy... (and) independence..."

Since 1956, of course, the East European puppet regimes have periodically attempted to buy off such political aspirations with economic reforms, more consumer goods and limited loosening of censorship. Nowhere has this been more assiduously tried than in Hungary itself where the Kadar regime operated the quietist principle of "he who is not against us is with us."

Such relaxation can be welcomed on the commonsense grounds that it is better to be governed by a mild tyranny than by a cruel one. But the document both claims and exemplifies that "goulash communism" has not succeeded in its principal aim of winning popular support for the satellite regimes. The spectre of the Red Army remains the indispensable condition of Soviet rule.

Despite superficial appearances, the Soviet empire is an unstable one, disturbed on average by one attempted revolution per decade. It has been better able to resist these

periodic rebellions because its subjects were disunited within countries as well as between them. Yet this document brings together not just Hungarians, Poles, East Germans and Czechs, but also Catholics and atheists, "rightist" nationalists and "leftist" workers, officially tolerated "peace" spokesmen and underground activists.

The Polish signatories, for instance, include Jacek Czaputowicz of the legal "Freedom and Peace" movement, Jan Andrzej Gornoy of underground Solidarity, Marek Edelman, the last surviving commander of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and now a cardiologist, Leszek Moczulski, leader of the underground nationalist movement, and Adam Michnik, who is usually described as the theoretical brains behind Solidarity. These names are a list of the real political forces in Polish society beneath the frozen military-communist facade. And what is true for Poland applies also to other bloc nations.

With this declaration, on the anniversary of the greatest popular uprising against Soviet communist rule, the real political forces of Eastern Europe have begun to work together to regain their freedom. It is not, as Churchill remarked of another evil empire, the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it may be the end of the beginning.

CHRISTIANS AND CONSERVATIONISTS

It is right that the nation should regard architecturally and historically distinguished buildings as community assets and not just as the disposable private property of their present owners. It should also nerve itself to compensate the owners for any loss of income or amenity.

The principle (if not the qualification) is enshrined in the system for the legal control of the alteration and demolition of "listed" buildings. But churches, which make up a substantial proportion of this national heritage, are exempt, and conservationist bodies have been clamouring for them to be brought within the system.

They succeeded in persuading the Department of the Environment to investigate the issue, to publish a Green Paper, and to enter long and detailed negotiations with the churches. They have not succeeded. It is clear from Lord Skelmersdale's announcement last week, in winning the abolition of the principle of ecclesiastical exemption.

The Church of England, which is responsible for most of the buildings in this class, has agreed to certain modifications of its own internal "faculty jurisdiction" processes, so that architectural and

conservationist interests will in future always be fully involved in the advisory stages. All church demolitions outside the existing safeguards of the 1983 Pastoral Measure will be subject to full listed building control; all proposed demolitions under the Measure will be referred to the Secretary of State, with the possibility of his calling a public inquiry whose recommendations the church has agreed to be bound by.

In return the Government has agreed to guarantee sufficient income for the Redundant Churches Fund to take care of buildings for which the church has no further use and which are too important to be pulled down. That is fair.

Because what is envisaged is a partnership rather than the full imposition of "secular" statutory control, it will, as Lord Skelmersdale acknowledges, require considerable goodwill on both sides. The conservationist interests should not let their failure to win all they were seeking sour that partnership from the outset, simply in the interests of proving that it cannot work and that they were right.

A relatively small proportion of the churches deemed worthy of protection by "listing" belong to the Free

Churches and the Roman Catholic Church, and they too enjoy ecclesiastical exemption although they have nothing like the Church of England's faculty system.

Listed building control is to be extended, with the consent of those bodies, to alterations which would "materially affect the architectural or historic interest" of such buildings. This recognises that the community in general has a stake in the outward appearance of such buildings.

There are to be further talks concerning arrangements for lesser alterations, particularly to interiors, but here the Government would be well advised to tread very carefully. These churches exist not just as monuments to the architectural skills of the past, but also as monuments to the principle that the state may not prevent citizens worshipping as they please. To urge and persuade the appropriate church authorities that on aesthetic grounds an overbearing Methodist pulpit should not be moved, or an over-gothic Catholic altar not scaled down would be reasonable; to insist on this, on pain of criminal penalties, would be to compromise the principle of religious toleration and freedom of worship.

ing the need for a successor commanding universal support.

Some diplomats, including the greatly relieved French host government, believe that M'Bow finally recognizes that the pressures against him are too strong. But others, including respected African diplomats in Paris, expect him to turn his setback to tactical advantage, using a year in which governments may relax their vigilance to continue his election campaign in the hope of emerging as the fallback choice in a large field in which no rival has decisive backing.

Just as the formal Board letter inviting governments to nominate their candidates reached capitals, M'Bow flew to the Ivory Coast to meet President Houphouët Boigny, elder statesman of Francophone Africa whose influence would be decisive in persuading African governments to maintain their support for him. Later this month, he embarks on a long tour of Latin American countries, the weakest link in the Third World support on which he relies, which looks like a return to the campaign trail.

Britain should continue to make it clear that it will rejoin Unesco only if it again becomes worthy of its charter, its management is cleansed of placemen and its programmes focussed on well-defined goals which have universal support. There can be no relaxation in the demands that M'Bow must go.

MANOEUVRINGS BY M'BOW

The euphoria among staff and diplomats earlier this month at Unesco, in the immediate wake of the unexpected announcement by its controversial director-general Amadou Mahtar M'Bow that he would not ask for a third six-year term, is giving place to widespread conviction that M'Bow has by no means abandoned hope of re-election.

While M'Bow's departure next year would not by itself solve Unesco's deep-seated problems, it is a necessary precondition for making a start, as the Japanese, the Swiss, the Dutch and the West Germans say openly. Not least, it would end the "private war" which Unesco's former legal adviser, Karel Vasek, has accused M'Bow of waging against the United States and Britain, both of which have withdrawn from Unesco in despair of the prospects for reform.

According to senior figures in Tokyo, the Japanese are prepared to orchestrate a mass exodus if he stays, and would probably succeed. The very survival of Unesco hangs on M'Bow's departure. Yet over that much-to-be-desired event he still has some control.

Under Unesco rules it is the 50-member executive board, packed with M'Bow supporters, which recommends a candidate to its 158-member states. Some of these will now defect, but he still stands a good chance of commanding a majority if he seeks one.

Both the content and the timing of his statement of October 6 are grounds for

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Relative values and lure of Einstein

From Professor A. P. Miodownik
Sir, The Astronomer Royal of Scotland, Malcolm Longair, has made an impassioned plea for an improvement in the communication of science to the intelligent layman ("Bring Einstein to the people", October 15) but he has wisely admitted that having a vision of a more scientifically informed populace does not define the means by which this can be readily achieved.

The fact that most scientists are only interested in discoveries which have particular relevance to their own speciality is probably the greatest stumbling block to communicating their excitement to the public at large.

The discoveries made by Einstein clearly rank amongst the main scientific achievements of the 20th century and have been the seminal influence on vast areas of technological advance. The reason that people do not respond to such apparently important universal laws may quite simply be that even such all-embracing laws have to be placed in a greater context.

To reach for a unifying explanation of the world of sub-atomic particles and the world of galaxies is a noble, exciting and worthwhile pursuit, but where is the relevance of those laws to the world of human beings? Clearly they are relevant to the increasingly technological environment in which we find ourselves, but is any connection being made with the existence or behaviour of humanity at large?

The article in question tends to indicate that pursuing Einstein's ideas will lead the reader away from commonly perceived relationships into a world where everything is relative, transient and totally unrelated to normal human activities. It may well be very important to realise that such a world exists, but it is all too easy to give the impression that the commonly perceived world of human relationships is thereby rendered false and meaningless.

Until the two different viewpoints can be seen to relate, and not to be in conflict with each other, there will inevitably be considerable consumer resistance to theories which reduce the status of human existence to being a statistical quirk in a transient, and essentially hostile, universe. Judging by his autobiographical material, Einstein himself was very insistent that this should not happen, but regrettably his own views are not propagated with the same ardour as his theories.

Really bringing Einstein to the people would be a marvellous challenge, but trying to propagate his theories divorced from his humanity is likely to be counter-productive. It is probably more important, at this point in time, to bring some humanity into the theorising of modern scientists. Until the connection is remade, the public is quite right in rejecting the blandishments of theories divorced from human existence.

Yours sincerely,
A. P. MIODOWNIK,
University of Surrey,
Department of Materials Science and Engineering,
Guildford, Surrey.

From Mrs Hilary Martin
Sir, "The gentleman scientists of the nineteenth century" to whom Malcolm Longair refers had many problems to consider at that time

A rush of visitors
From Mr H. M. Lunniss
Sir, As midnight heralded the introduction of the entry visa for all entrants to the UK from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh public opinion points to discrimination towards members of the Third World.

With the advent of the new maroon EEC passport early in 1987 would it not seem sensible to introduce UK entry visas to those countries outside the European Community, in particular those countries where such documentation is required of UK passport holders?

Yours faithfully,
H. M. LUNNISS,
64 Haydon Close, Kingsbury, NW9 0LH, October 15.

Sale of vicarages
From the Reverend Canon E. G. and Mrs Longman
Sir, We must put in a good word for the Church Commissioners under fire for selling off desirable large old parsonages (Letters, September 27, October 3, 7). The retention of this listed early Victorian rectory has been under active discussion for over 20 years.

It is twice the acceptable size. However, after careful consideration of its site, the financial implications of alternatives, and its contribution to the life of the Church, a scheme is now being implemented whereby it is being retained, with a third separated off as a glebe flat, bringing in useful income for the diocese.

The large hall and adjacent reception room with renaissance panelling will be shared with the parish, and the private part of the house is being rearranged more conveniently for the incumbent and his family.

Incidentally, a change of plan at the last minute, involving no extra expense, was accepted within the hour of its reception by the Church Commissioners. We believe these are good reasons to show they are more flexible now and can respond quickly.
Yours sincerely,
TED LONGMAN,
ROSE LONGMAN,
The Rectory, 16 Colehill Street,
Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

NHS stick and carrot approach

From Mr Ivan Lester
Sir, Mr J. T. Winkler ("NHS spur for the spurious", October 14) assumes that the sole motivation of NHS general managers is financial reward. If that were the case, that band of talented individuals would not be working for the NHS. For the most part these people are talented professionals from clinical and other disciplines who have devoted much to the NHS and its patients.

The second major flaw in Mr Winkler's argument is the assumption that NHS general managers are responsible to nobody other than themselves. This is quite erroneous. General managers are responsible to a district health authority, which amongst other things, sets the expected standards and closely scrutinizes and assesses the work of the general managers in carrying out the policies of the authority (i.e. not the policies of the general managers).

If anything, one of the great problems of health authorities is the lack of performance indicators against which authority members can measure the standards in their health authority against standards in other authorities. This is slowly being rectified.

Yours faithfully,
HILARY MARTIN,
29 Murray Road,
Wokingham, Berkshire.

From Mr Percy Halliday
Sir, I may be the fool who steps in where angels fear to tread, but if all of us, scientists included, could adopt the remarkable humility of Einstein, what a transformation there would be!

He told Rabindranath Tagore that, though he couldn't prove it, he believed in a truth that was independent of human beings. And he wrote that he himself was content to investigate this marvelous universe and apprehend some small part of "the intelligible" that it disclosed. He was unable to believe that the scientist who made a new discovery was the first ever to have thought of it.

If Malcolm Longair wishes to bring this aspect of Einstein's teaching to the general knowledge of all of us, nothing but good could come of it.
Yours faithfully,
PERCY HALLIDAY,
43 Reynolds Road,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

From Dr Andrew Wilski
Sir, "Bring Einstein to the people" by Malcolm Longair, far from making the subject in question understandable, will in fact confirm the suspicion of many that much of this century's theoretical physics is humbug. None of the real technical achievements of our age are based on the theory of relativity or any similar speculation.

These speculations often depend on an illegitimate corruption of the meanings of some essential words and attempt to create an illusion that it is possible for us to understand the world beyond what have always been believed to be human limitations. One of the few pronouncements of modern theoretical physics which are truly illuminating is Heisenberg's principle of uncertainty which, in contrast to Einstein's conceit, forces upon us humility.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW WILSKI,
42 Candlemas Lane,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Wrong colour
From Dr Patrick Cosgrave
Sir, Dr Alan Hamilton (October 15) refers to Mr Deng Xiao-Ping as the *eminent* guest of the People's Republic of China. The usage is, surely, historically inappropriate.

The description "grey eminence" was first used — so far as my knowledge goes — of Pere Joseph, the great Cardinal Richelieu's confidant and secretary in 17th-century France. It arose from the contrast of colour between the cardinal's red robes and Joseph's handsomely grey Capuchin attire. It was meant to suggest that Richelieu's policies were made for him by a far less flamboyant — and, indeed, retiring — figure.

But, surely, Mr Deng is far from grey — in the sense of being retiring, or anxious to stay behind the scenes. In every movement of policy in mainland China he has been forward, and thrusting. It would, therefore — if the comparison has to be used — be much more accurate to describe him as the "red eminence" of China. That description would, also, be more aesthetically appropriate.
Yours sincerely,
PATRICK COSGRAVE,
21 Thornton Road, SW12.

Disaster on K2
From Mr M. J. Ball
Sir, Dr Charles Clarke's letter (October 2) about the disastrous events on K2 concentrates on the problem of low oxygen only. In my view the appalling number of deaths after a forced high camp was due to shortage of food and fuel, the latter being essential to produce the large quantities of water needed at this altitude.

It is clear from accounts now available that no fuel or food was available in the 48 hours before the final descent was attempted. Of those who attempted the descent only two were able to reach the bottom of the mountain. Art Davidson, in *The Coldest Winter*, an account of the first winter ascent of Mount McKinley in Alaska, gives a very clear account of the necessities in a forced high bivouac. Although at only just over 18,200 feet, the simulated altitude in terms of

ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 20 1908

"In the last 15 or 20 years of his life," according to an assessment of Tolstoy's influence in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, "he was probably the most venerated man in the world." Yet his domestic life ended tragically. Ten years after this letter appeared, because of a deepening estrangement from his wife, he secretly left his country home, Yasnaya Polyana, where he had been born in 1828, taking with him his youngest daughter, Alexandra. Ten days later, on November 20, 1910, he collapsed and died in the stationmaster's office at Astapovo.

COUNT TOLSTOY'S THANKS

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

When, some months before the date, I heard of my friends' intention to celebrate my 80th birthday, I announced in print that I much wished they would do nothing of the sort.

But what I had not at all expected happened — namely, that from the last days of August to the present time I have been, and still am, receiving from most various friends and acquaintances greetings that I feel it necessary to express my sincere gratitude to all those persons and institutions who have addressed me so amicably and kindly.

I thank all the Universities, town councils, zemstvo councils, educational establishments, societies, alliances, groups, clubs, fellowships, and staffs of newspapers and magazines who, by their letters, addresses and greetings, I also thank all my friends and acquaintances, both in Russia and abroad, who remembered me on that day. I thank all those whom I do not know personally, of very various social position, including prisoners in jails and exiles, who have greeted me with equal cordiality. I thank all the youths, maidens, and children who have sent me their congratulations.

I also thank for their good wishes those members of the clerical calling who have greeted me, and the fact that there are very few such makes me value their greetings the more highly. I also thank those who, together with their congratulations, have sent me beautiful presents.

I heartily thank all who have greeted me, especially those (the majority) who, quite unexpectedly to me and to my great joy, have expressed in their addresses full agreement, not with me, but with those eternal truths which, as best I could, I have tried to express in my writings. Among these I was particularly pleased to find a majority of men and women. Excusing myself for my inability to reply separately to each institution and person, I ask all to accept this announcement as an expression of my sincere gratitude to all who during these days have expressed their kind feelings towards me, for the joy they have given me.

LEO TOLSTOY

Count Tolstoy.

The amiable letter in which COUNT TOLSTOY expresses his morning, through our columns, his thanks to those who from all quarters of the world and from every section of society have sent him greetings and gifts on his eightieth birthday is a document which in more than one aspect is of quite exceptional interest. It assists us for one thing to realize with unusual vividness how the texture of international life tends constantly to become closer. Interchange of ideas and sympathies has its modern developments side by side with the more material and obtrusive methods of communication between one nation and another, and these twofold exports and imports, equally with the interests involved in less palpable commodities, make for that mutual understanding among nations which is perhaps the strongest of the forces working for the world's peace. . . . From a narrower and more personal point of view the celebration is equally a blessing. It is perhaps the strongest testimony that has been given in recent times of the far-reaching fascination of character. For it is appreciation of his high personal worth, his truth, his self-assertion, his relentless loyalty to the light as he conceives it, rather than perception of his literary power or sympathy with his social ideal that has won for COUNT TOLSTOY the affectionate esteem of vast masses of people throughout the civilized world. . . . It is pretty safe to say that it is Tolstoy the man rather than Tolstoy the novelist, or Tolstoy the apostle, who has captured the imagination and esteem of so many people in so many different lands. . . . Nobility of purpose, high moral and spiritual life — these all can understand and admire and, displayed as COUNT TOLSTOY has displayed them in the peculiar difficulties in which his life has been led, they have appealed to the imaginations and the hearts of mankind with irresistible and searching power. . . .

Reykjavik breakdown
From Colonel Charles Lane
Sir, The corollary, and possibly the answer, to Professor Ronald Fletcher's question (October 16), "Why do they" (the Americans) "continue to insist on a programme" (SDI) "which would be unnecessary" (after the elimination of nuclear bombs), is: Why do they (the Soviet Union) continue to insist on the programme (SDI) being stopped?

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES LANE,
West House,
Warminster, Wiltshire,
October 16.

barometric pressure in summer is about 19,000 feet and in winter 21,000 feet, so that they were not much lower in simulated altitude in their ice cave than the K2 party.

On McKinley fuel was available though difficult to reach in the storm, and food could be obtained by searching previous caches. All members of the expedition descended alive, though at the cost of some frost-bite.

On a mountain like K2, where prolonged storms are relatively common, it should be standard practice to have enough food and fuel at the appropriate sites if the risk is to be kept to reasonable levels.
Yours faithfully,
M. J. BALL,
Mansfield and District General Hospital,
West Hill Drive,
Mansfield,
Nottinghamshire,
October 9.

Captive audience

From Mr Leslie Dunkling
Sir, The loud conversation of fellow passengers on the train this morning made it quite impossible for me to do the crossword. I fell instead to wondering whether there is a word in English for someone who is forced, against his will, to be a listener.

These days I seem frequently to be a victim of such a torture, whether it be of the form of conversations (inevitably boring in proportion to its loudness) or "music". I am hardly an "eavesdropper" on such occasions, deriving pleasure from the experience. What then am I?

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE DUNKLING,
32 Speer Road,
Thames Ditton, Surrey,
October 9.

Executive Editor
Kenneth FleetSTOCK MARKET
(Change on week)FT 30 Share
1281.5 (+16.1)FT-SE 100
1610.0 (+10.6)Bargains
28380USM (Datastream)
124.70 (+1.32)THE POUND
(Change on week)US Dollar
1.4320 (-0.0015)W German mark
2.8268 (-0.0194)Trade-weighted
67.3 (-0.3)Financial
Bill faces
Ezra threat

Two controversial investor protection issues will be debated in Parliament today when the Financial Services Bill completes the report stage in the House of Lords.

The Government's amendment to the Bill which imposes an industry-wide compensation scheme on the investment sector will meet some opposition.

Lord Ezra, the Alliance peer, has tabled an amendment which aims to give the self-regulating organizations more say in deciding to participate in an industry scheme.

The Government is, however, likely to win the compensation debate, not least because the Labour Opposition tried unsuccessfully to introduce a similar provision at the committee stage of the Bill in the Commons.

The Government will be opposing another amendment from Lord Ezra, prompted by the banks and building societies.

They are concerned that proposals from the Securities and Investments Board — the designated agency under the Bill — will impair their branches' ability to sell in-house life assurance and unit trust products.

Opec ready
to extend
quota dealBy David Young
Energy Correspondent

The agreement on oil output levels due to expire on October 31, is now likely to be extended until the end of the year with a radical new formula introduced from January 1.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries has spent the past two weeks working on the new system under which Kuwait and Saudi Arabia will receive a larger share of the market because they bore the brunt of production cuts over the past three years.

Sheik Yamani, the Saudi Minister, who on Friday said he would oppose any extension of the present agreement, yesterday said his country's position had changed because of firm commitments by the other nations.

He expected the oil ministers, who began their meeting again last night, to reach a final agreement on the new quotas when the meeting resumed this morning.

The oil price rose from \$10 a barrel to more than \$15 when the present agreement was announced two months ago, and traders expect prices to start firming today although they are sceptical that they will go as high as Opec's target price of \$17 to \$19 a barrel.

Arab politics, page 27

Big Bang anger
over faults
on rehearsal day

By Michael Clark and Richard Thomson

A rift has developed between the Stock Exchange and member firms about the efficiency of its new screen quoted prices system SEAO (Stock Exchange Automated Quotations) after the full dress rehearsal on Saturday for Big Bang on October 27.

Mr Patrick Mitford-Slade, a stockbroker with Cazenove and a leading member of the Stock Exchange Council, said yesterday he was pleased with the operation. "It's been a very successful day's trading and the system has performed exactly as expected."

But a heated post-mortem examination between Stock Exchange officials and member firms on Saturday produced a long list of complaints and faults found in the system.

"There appears to be a fundamental problem in the system," said one harassed marketmaker on Saturday. "On the evidence, I would expect the Stock Exchange must be disappointed with its own performance and that of some of the marketmakers. A lot of people have been found wanting."

At the same time the gilt market rehearsal, the second in a month, went comparatively smoothly despite the disruption of a fire at the Central Gilt Office, which handles settlements. There was a further 15-minute failure during the afternoon.

Among the problems highlighted in the equity market was the time delay in new prices appearing on dealing screens, dealers refusing to answer the telephone, problems with telephone communications, long delays in completing a transaction and dealers deliberately misusing the system.

The main problem was the delay between the time marketmakers entered new prices into the system and the price appearing on their screens — sometimes as much

as 20 minutes. Many marketmakers blamed the Stock Exchange's SEAO system but the Exchange said that its own tests showed that SEAO had never taken more than two seconds to post a new price.

Among those who stopped quoting prices during the day were Scrimgeour Vickers, Kleinwort Greaveson, Kitcat & Aitken and Rowe & Pitman.

Mullens. If the fault is with marketmakers they may be forced to spend more on top of the millions of pounds they have invested already in sophisticated equipment. Persistent delays leading to out-of-date prices would make the new screen-based dealing system unworkable because marketmakers are obliged to deal at the prices shown on their screens.

The Stock Exchange said that during the day several marketmakers had been obliged to abandon their own systems and fall back on the Exchange's own SEAO level three dealing system. And of 32 faults reported during the day, 30 had been resolved by the end of the session, the Exchange claimed.

The post-mortem was dominated by complaints that many marketmakers had not been answering their telephones when called by other dealers. "People were refusing to answer," said a market participant.

The time delay in posting prices was given as the main reason because dealers knew the prices on which they would have to deal were out of date. Ignoring calls is against the rules for marketmakers, who are obliged to make prices to any competitor who asks.

The Stock Exchange's internal telephone system (known as STX) was heavily criticized by brokers and marketmakers.

The brokers complained they could not get through to the marketmakers and valuable time had been wasted. One firm called in a British Telecom engineer to check its system. He told them the phones were working normally and the problem lay with the internal exchange.

Another stockbroker gave a warning that the STX system was inadequate and would not cope with the increased volume expected to be generated by Big Bang. Most of the big firms had started to install direct lines.

Some dealers admitted that they had been deliberately misusing the system. When they could not cope they switched their prices from yellow to red on the screens — meaning that they were not open for dealing — although they insisted that they would still quote to any marketmaker who contacted them by telephone.

That is illegal because marketmakers are obliged to quote real prices on their screens throughout the trading day. Under normal conditions, not quoting a live price for a stock on his screen could lead to a marketmaker being banned from trading in that stock.

There were complaints also about the length of time it took to execute a transaction.

One dealer at Phillips & Drew said it had taken him one hour and a half to complete just 13 trades. That compared with about half-an-hour under the old system.

Other players, frustrated by the length of time their "script" of orders had taken to execute, reverted to traditional methods. "It was three times quicker dealing on the floor," one broker said.

Mr Mitford-Slade remained confident, however, that most of Saturday's problems would be ironed out by the middle of this week.



Mr Louis Bizat: Trend is encouraging (Photograph: Nick Rodgers)

Exhibitions show
a healthy growth

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Britain's exhibitions industry, whose turnover grew by 16 per cent last year, is likely to see further annual rises on this pattern as a new clutch of exhibition halls start opening their doors.

This forecast came yesterday from Mr Louis Bizat, general manager of Alexandra Palace and chairman of the British Exhibition and Venues Association, as he inspected the almost completed translucent roof of the great hall of the 113-year-old palace which was devastated by fire in 1980.

A swiftly-erected pavilion has kept the Alexandra Palace and Park Trust in the exhibition business, while the grand Victorian "palace of the people" is being rebuilt but this work is on budget and on time for the restored building to be hosting exhibitions from January 1988.

It will add 100,000 square feet of exhibition space to the capital's growing total which only this weekend was boosted by 40,000 square feet with the opening of the Business Design Centre at Islington which, unusually, also has 120,000 square feet of space for permanent showrooms and offices.

Next January a £5 million exhibition hall of about 50,000 square feet is due to open at the Wembley complex and by 1990, at a cost of £35 million, an additional exhibition hall of

180,000 square feet is planned to be opened by Earls Court and Olympia, the exhibitions and conferences arm of the P & O group.

Mr Bizat said: "The growth trend in the exhibitions business is encouraging." His optimism is underpinned by the latest analyses of the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers which show spending last year was £192 million compared with £191 million in 1984 but ISBA says a more realistic comparison is with 1983 which shows a growth of 25 per cent.

The full impact of two big hall openings, Glasgow's Scottish Exhibition Centre and G-Mex in the refurbished Manchester Central Station, will not be seen until this year, said ISBA.

Further immediate development in London could bring an excess of exhibition capacity, according to Mr Bizat. But given the growth trends the capital could possibly need more space by the middle of the next decade, he added.

Under consideration in Docklands is a scheme for 200,000 square feet of exhibition space put forward as part of a multiple development for the Royal Docks area by a consortium of which Laing, the construction group, is part.

AE in last-ditch
appeal to avert
new T&N bid

By Cliff Feltham

AE, the engineering components group, will make a last-ditch attempt today to overturn a ruling by the Takeover Panel which has given Turner & Newall, the asbestos group, the go-ahead to launch a new takeover bid.

If it fails, Turner & Newall will swiftly mount a new offer. Last night, Sir Francis Tombs, the company's chairman, said: "We obviously would have to read the terms of the final judgment of the Panel and then look at market conditions before making a decision. But it is fair to say that the logic remains unchanged — AE would be better off with us."

The Takeover Panel has not formally announced the results of its lengthy investigation but it is widely understood to have censured AE's financial adviser, the stockbroker firm Cazenove, and the merchant banker Hill Samuel, over buying of the company's shares in the closing stages of the last £260 million takeover bid, which left Turner & Newall just 1 per cent short of gaining control.

There is also understood to have been criticism of the role played by the Midland Bank. So far none of the parties has commented on the Panel's findings but they were told of the outcome at the end of last week and given a statutory 48 hours in which to lodge an appeal.

That appeal is expected to be triggered today and the final verdict will be known before the end of this week. Observers point out that in view of the thorough inquiry already undertaken, the chances of a successful appeal are slim.

If it does fail, Turner & Newall will be released from the normal constraints

preventing it from renewing a bid inside a year. The company was left with a 29.6 per cent shareholding in AE and would launch another bid almost immediately.

Last Friday, the shares in both companies were suspended on the stock market indicating an outcome to the Panel's investigation, which focused on whether the rules of the takeover code had been breached by the failure of associates of AE to disclose vital share purchases.

Just under 5 million AE shares were bought by its supporters at prices in excess of the Turner & Newall offer and subsequently sold at a loss.

Hill Samuel has apparently argued that the Midland Bank was not an associate of AE and, therefore, the transaction did not come under the disclosure requirements of the City code.

AE's view all along has been that it was unaware of these manoeuvres and it appears likely that the Panel has accepted this explanation. But the authorities have made clear to its advisers that the dealings should have been reported.

Last night, Sir Francis Tombs, while declining to comment on the Panel's findings, said that Turner & Newall still felt it was the "injured party" in the affair. The fact remains that we were within 1 per cent of victory when a large block of shares was suddenly removed from the market," he said.

Turner & Newall, which has been revitalized under the reign of Sir Francis, has been keen to reduce its dependence on asbestos-related products and saw the opportunity in AE.

EMS entry speculation
as Poehl sees Thatcher

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Sterling is expected to continue to trade nervously in foreign exchange markets in the next few days after pressure on the currency last week.

Speculation continues that today's visit to London by Herr Karl Otto Poehl, the Bundesbank's president, when he will meet Mrs Thatcher, could be the occasion for Britain's entry into the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System. But officials denied over the weekend that there was any change in Britain's attitude that the time was not yet ripe.

Other factors which could affect the mood of the markets include today's retail sales announcement and the monthly trade figures, on

Thursday. A buoyant performance by retail sales would tend to confirm fears that financial conditions are uncomfortably lax.

More important will be the trade figures — which in August showed a record deficit. The August announcement was described by Mr Nigel Lawson in his speech at the Mansion House last week as a freak and market operators are expecting the latest figures to be better.

Money markets were indicating a rise in interest rates at the end of last week of 1/2-1 percent point.

The building societies are waiting to see whether base rates go up again before deciding an increase.



Big what? The effects of delays and faults show among these dealers on the trading floor of a London broker during the rehearsal (Photographer: Frank Hermann)

Last-minute wait for Opax

By Allison Endie

Norton Opax's £146.6 million bid for rival printer and publisher, McCorquodale, closes on Wednesday. Institutional shareholders look likely to wait until the last minute to make up their minds.

Mr Robert Maxwell, the largest McCorquodale shareholder with a 10 per cent stake, has said he will make up his mind on the last day. Norton Opax made its presentation to him last Wednesday and McCorquodale goes to see him this week.

Mr Maxwell has raised his holding in McCorquodale from 5.9 per cent in the past three weeks at prices well above Opax's 260p cash offer.

The bid has been characterised by bitter sniping over statistical data. Last week, McCorquodale responded vigorously to an Opax publication calling a table it had printed "inaccurate and highly misleading" and the assumptions in it "unwarranted and incomplete".

Whereas Opax claimed that McCorquodale's underlying growth in 1985-86 was 10.3 per cent and, on the basis of McCorquodale's profit forecast, 1.3 per cent in 1986-87, McCorquodale's figures showed underlying growth of 28.7 per cent last year and 36.3 per cent this year.

Margins are also a bone of contention. Opax claims its

margins are 55 per cent higher overall and its cheque printing margins are nearly 20 per cent against McCorquodale's 9 per cent.

McCorquodale claims its overall margins are 9.9 per cent and its cheque printing margins are 16.1 per cent against Opax's 12.3 per cent. The difference stems from Opax comparing its year-end 1985, whereas McCorquodale prefers to use its September 1986 year-end.

Opax believes it can manage change better than the opposition's "professional administrators".

New Chile plan
to pay debt

The debt-ridden Chileans have come up with an ingenious scheme to try to get the country into the black — by encouraging their creditors to turn investors.

The plan, from the central bank, is to enable some of their creditor banks to cut their losses and sell their debts at discounts of up to 30 per cent. The paper they are handed in exchange is then sold to investors entitling them to an equity stake in locally quoted companies.

Other Latin-American countries, and the IMF, are reported to be studying the system to see if it can be used elsewhere.

Dixons pays £4m for
SupaSnapS film chain

By Our City Staff

Dixons, the electrical group, is taking over the chain of 344 SupaSnapS high street film processing shops. The chairman, Mr Stanley Kalms, claimed the deal would give it another important retailing leg.

Dixons is paying £4 million for the business which is a subsidiary of the large American conglomerate 3M. Last year SupaSnapS broke even on a turnover of £42 million.

As well as the chain of shops, the company also has three film processing laboratories in Glasgow, Northampton and Reading. The plants will provide much needed additional production facilities for Dixons' own colour laboratories. Last year, its film processing division raised profits by 60 per cent to £2 million.

Mr Kalms said: "The acquisition is an important step

into a related and complementary area and is a perfect fit for us."

As well as offering speedy service for processing films, it is likely that the SupaSnapS shops will begin offering additional services such as photo reproduction on posters, greeting cards, table mats and crockery.

Dixons intends to develop SupaSnapS as a new retailing arm within the group, which at present takes includes Currys and the out-of-town Power City stores.

Dixons failed in a £1.8 billion bid for Woolworth this year in an attempt to secure more selling space in the high street. Despite the latest deal, it is still in an acquisitive mood and there is still speculation that it might renew its attack on Woolworth next year.

Virgin Group to be floated
with £250 million price tag

By Lawrence Lever

Mr Richard Branson, the millionaire entrepreneur, is to bring his international entertainment company, the Virgin Group, to the stock market next month with a price tag of about £250 million.

Ninety per cent of the Virgin empire will be included in the sale but the Virgin Atlantic airline and Virgin Holidays will not be included.

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, and Rowe & Pitman, the stockbrokers, are advising on the flotation, which will be on the main market. However, the method which will be used has not yet been chosen.

Mr Branson said yesterday that he and his partner, Mr Simon Draper, will sell 25 per cent of the Virgin Group to the public. He now owns 85 per

cent of the company with Mr Draper holding the balance. "Most of the money raised will go into the Virgin Group," Mr Branson said. "We will be investing rather a lot of money in America over the next two to three years."

"Most of Virgin's growth has been natural. We have rarely failed as a company because when we actually set up a company it already has business there. All 18 of our foreign companies are already trading profitably."

Mr Branson said that Virgin should shortly announce the signing of one of the top five American pop groups. Moreover, last week Virgin took a 17.5 per cent stake in ITV Superchannel, which makes it the second largest investor in the European

entertainment channel. Virgin aims to capitalize on the broad range of entertainment services it can offer on an international level.

It can sign up artists, publish their music and distribute it through its record shops, as well as having video, television, film, book publishing and merchandising arms.

"Whatever we are doing in England, we can do in the rest of the world. We are the only entertainment group in Europe involved in the number of areas we cover. Most of the others are single product companies. We offer groups a completely worldwide service," he said.

Mr Branson added that he would spend "one to two days a month, if that," on the airline business after the flotation.

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ANALYSIS

Can auditors see the problem before the Government acts?

By Carol Ferguson

The age-old question *quis custodiet ipsos custodes?*, crudely rendered into "who will shave the barber?", has a new translation: who will audit the auditors?

It may seem odd, at a time of general deregulation, that the Government appears to be looking for ways of increasing the amount of regulation on auditors. Yet the Department of Trade and Industry, headed by Mr Paul Channon, and the Office of Fair Trading, whose director-general is Sir Gordon Borrie, have both brought out documents in the last two months which could have profound effects on how accountants are regulated and on the services they can offer.

There are no statutory reasons for changing the present arrangements apart from the comparatively minor changes required by the Eighth Directive. And the Department of Trade and Industry's consultative document on the regulation of auditors is precisely that. It merely suggests areas where change may be appropriate, along with some possible solutions.

Nevertheless, the profession has not been seduced by the somewhat bland tone of the consultative document and has rightly decided to treat the suggestions as if they do, indeed, have a serious chance of turning into reality. The closing date for comments is the end of January but individual member firms are already coming up with their initial responses.

As things stand, the audit function is governed by statute and professional guidance. The chartered accountancy bodies are the very embodiment of the principle of self-regulation. They decide what training is needed by auditors, provide the educational facilities, set the examinations, and control admission to membership. Their right to do this depends on their continued recognition by the Secretary of State.

At present, auditing is the only statutorily regulated activity of a range of financial services offered by accountants.



Sir Gordon Borrie, left, and Mr Paul Channon: their bland siren calls have been ignored

An audit on accountancy

The requirements of the eighth European Community company law directive are such that it will not be possible to leave the accountancy bodies in precisely their present position.

The required changes, however, are comparatively minor, and they are unlikely of themselves to upset British standards.

It is suggested that the Secretary of State's present responsibilities for the authorization and supervision of individually approved auditors could be devolved to

a body based on the profession.

But the Department of Trade is using the implementation of the directive as an opportunity to review — and if necessary reform — the Companies Act provisions on auditors' qualifications and independence.

The Act now restricts the right to audit company accounts to individuals who are either directly authorized by the Secretary of State or who are members of a recognized body, the three institutes of chartered accountants (in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland) and the Char-

tered Association of Certified Accountants.

The most controversial proposals concern the independence of the auditor and the question of whether all accountancy services, as opposed to auditing alone as at present, should be subject to regulation.

Other issues on which comments are invited include the case for allowing accountancy firms to become limited liability companies, the case for toughening up procedures for authorizing individually approved auditors and the merits of introducing a professional designation common to all qualified auditors.

The nature of auditing is such that auditors must offload conflicts as they arise. They live by the quality of their opinions. They must be well-founded and independent or they are doomed.

Mr Bryan Blackburn, national audit partner at Deloitte Haskins and Sells, expressed his concern: "To justify banning the supply of different services to the same client, surely it should be demonstrated that the present practices have been harmful to the interests of clients and investors. We do not think this has ever been the case."

The alternative suggestion, to limit all audit appointments to a certain number of years, in Mr Blackburn's view, increases audit fees.

Coopers & Lybrand, in its initial response, has decided not to answer the specific questions raised in the document but has attempted to broaden the terms of the debate.

"Should we not redefine the scope of the audit to include management accounts and the whole basis on which the company is managed?" asks Mr Jenkins.

The present method of reporting by auditors dates back to the 19th century. Modern information systems and the complexity of business life have made it outdated. Calling the annual report's half-a-dozen lines, to the effect that the accounts give a true and fair view, an auditor's "report" is at best an exaggeration. It serves neither the shareholders, the management nor the directors.

If Mr Jenkins is right and the auditing function out of date, then it has been out of date for some time.

If they are to justify their claims for maintaining the status quo, on the grounds that it works perfectly well as it is, they must demonstrate that these issues can be recognized and tackled without having to be prodded into action by the threat of greater government regulation.

Otherwise, the Government can be relied on to find someone to shave the barber.

Start-up aid call by Prince

By Teresa Poole
Business Correspondent

Big business should do more to encourage the start up of small enterprises, the Prince of Wales will tell the world's largest small business conference at its opening session in London today.

In a pre-recorded interview he says that larger companies in this country should be encouraged, as in the US, to give just 1 per cent of their pretax profits to assist not only small businesses but also cultural and community activities within their area.

He also suggests that redundant premises should be turned into workshop units and redundant equipment and machinery made available at a peppercorn rent for small start-up operations.

The 13th International Small Business Congress is being attended by almost 500 delegates from 41 countries.

ISBC was conceived in 1974 by the United States Small Business Administration and Nagoya University of Japan and has become established as the major international annual forum for the exchange of opinions and plans to further the cause of small business worldwide. This year is the first time Britain has played host.

Delegates will also hear today from Lord Young, the Employment Minister, and Mr H E Toshio Yamazaki, the Japanese Ambassador in London, who will relay a message from his Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Further dollar fall forecast

Renewed pressure for protectionist measures to limit imports to the US, is forecast today by the stockbrokers Phillips & Drew.

The substantial fall in the dollar against currencies of its main trading partners and slower domestic demand should be enough to start a gradual improvement in the US net export position by early next year.

"The turnaround is unlikely to be fast enough to satisfy Congress. Even in this new stage of the US recovery, protectionism may not be dead and the dollar may have further to decline," says the broker. US notebook, page 27

Nationwide vote clears the way to take on the banks

By Martin Baker

The Nationwide Building Society today starts its first working week in the new era of building societies' financial freedoms. The measured package of services which its chief general manager Mr Tim Melville-Ross presented last month was adopted by a majority of members last Friday.

It has overcome the obstacle of being a mutual society which may prove to be almost as big as the outdated law which the building society movement claims has prevented it from competing with other financial institutions.

The enabling legislation, the Building Societies Act, does not come into force until next year. But each society's plans must be approved by the members while the building societies retain their status as mutual societies under the control of the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

Most of the plans unveiled by the major building societies have hardly been controversial, but the approval fence is still there to be handled.

Last week's announcements by the National & Provincial and Bristol & West societies that they intend to introduce a comprehensive stockbroking service may prove more difficult. The Leeds Permanent and the Halifax, which have made relatively modest acquisitions of local estate agent chains compared to Nationwide's national network, must seek ratification from their members.

Given the nature of the opposition the building societies will be taking on next year, they may find their mutual status somewhat cumbersome as a direct competitor like Barclays Bank does not need shareholder approval for acquisitions.

The Act requires societies which may want to turn to proprietary from mutual status, such as the Abbey National and perhaps the Woolwich Equitable, to defer the process for a year. After that, at least 20 per cent of the members must participate in any vote.

Perhaps the greatest advantage mutualism has for the managers of building societies is the protection it affords from take-over. Citicorp, the personal finance arm of Citicorp, has announced its wish to acquire a building society with a network of roughly 250 branches.

Building society mergers require detailed negotiations as first the managers must agree, then the members must approve their plans. The Leeds Permanent has failed twice — with the Town and Country and the Leeds Holbeck, while Nationwide and Woolwich parred company less than the best of friends.

But the Alliance and Leicester societies did manage to achieve the only really big merger in the industry, and Birmingham Midshires Society last week announced a planned merger with the Civil Service Society.

Unemployment 'stems from poor demand'

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

High unemployment in Britain is mainly the result of insufficient growth in demand, according to an article in *Economic Policy*, the monthly journal, published today.

According to Mr Christopher Pissarides of the London School of Economics, two-thirds of the rise in the jobless between 1979 and 1983 was because of inadequate demand and only one-third due to supply factors, such as benefits for those out of work and union power.

Reducing unemployment from current levels, he says, requires either additional demand or specific measures to encourage employers to take on more people, including job subsidies.

In another article, M Jacques Dreze of the University of Louvain, Belgium, says that work-sharing has not significantly cut unemployment in Europe.

Such attempts, he asserts, have generally only had a modest effect on the numbers in work.

ADVERTISEMENT

PLESSEY HOTLINE ** PLESSEY H

20 ISDX exchanges ordered for Scotland

The South of Scotland Electricity Board is buying twenty Plessey ISDX (Integrated Services Digital Exchange) systems as part of its third phase of network modernisation.

Principal use for these exchanges will be handling customer telephone enquiries at service centres throughout the Board's region. Because the Plessey ISDX exchanges have automatic call distribution, incoming calls can be spread so that enquirers will experience far less waiting time.

ONE NETWORK

The exchanges will be linked to form one network. To the public and to the staff, this turns the SSEB's service centres virtually into one big office, where calls can be handled and processed far more cost-effectively than by ordinary PABX exchanges.

Plessey installed the first phase of the network in 1985 — for the Board's head office and some of its local offices. The latest phase is expected to be ready for use early in 1987.

Plessey is Britain's leading manufacturer of digital exchanges for business. The



The Plessey ISDX at work.

ISDX, its newest model, has rapidly become the top-selling large PABX in the country.

About eighty Plessey systems have been sold to the electricity supply industry over the last few years.

Other notable business successes for Plessey in Scotland recently include GKN Steelstock of Glasgow, the National Museums of Scotland, the Scottish National Exhibition Centre, and the Heriot-Watt University.

USA sales breakthrough with plasma terminals

A contract for a number of multi-role plasma terminals for use in an important United States Air Force programme has gone to Plessey.

The ruggedised terminals will be delivered to Electro-space Systems Incorporated of Richardson, Texas, and will be fitted in command and control aircraft for use with their message processing system.

By providing US Air Force officers with access to a modern digital computer system, the Plessey terminals will play a vital role in improving the speed, accuracy and reliability

of military message transmissions.

This initial contract, valued in excess of \$650,000, was won against stiff international competition and marks another important breakthrough for Plessey into the extremely competitive American market



The height of high technology.

Helping to modernise the M25

Plessey is to supply new generation communications systems for the M25 motorway.

In a contract valued at more than £1 million, Plessey will supply and install additional motorway signalling and emergency telephone equipment.

This order follows the 1984 contract for Plessey to design and manufacture a control network installed at the Chigwell section.

The new contract includes a central processor for the M25 Godstone Police Control Office plus roadside outstation signalling and telephone equipment.

CANADA BUYS CORMORANT SONAR

The new Plessey Cormorant lightweight dipping sonar has been selected by Canada — the first customer for this advanced helicopter-borne anti-submarine system.

Cormorant is a private venture development by Plessey. The Canadian order represents a breakthrough for this compact, highly versatile sonar system.

Cormorant provides a unique low frequency active and passive acoustic sensor with a performance considerably more effective than existing systems.

The order to Plessey is from Computing Devices Company, a division of Control Data Canada Limited, who have completed negotiations with the Canadian Department of Supply Services to develop the HAPS (Helicopter Acoustic Processor System) advanced lightweight sonobuoy/sonar system for the Department of National Defence.



Cormorant's unique folding array design permits rapid deployment.

• NYNEX CORPORATION:

Net income for the quarter ending September 30 was \$314.3 million or \$1.55 a share (\$259.5 million or \$1.46 a share). Net income for the first nine months of 1986 was \$921.6 million, or \$4.55 a share (\$815.5 million or \$4.04 a share). Total operating revenue was \$2.87 billion in the third quarter and \$8.39 billion in the first nine months (third quarter \$2.62 billion and first nine months \$7.7 billion). Return on equity for the third quarter was 14.4 per cent and for the first nine months 14.29 per cent. Total assets are \$21.5 billion.

• BUNZL Acceptances have been received for 76,962,378 ordinary shares (about 76.03 per cent of new ordinary shares offered). New ordinary shares not taken up have been sold in the market at a premium.

• D'ARSENE INVEST: All the new shares issued through the rights issue in July and in relation to the purchase of Compel in September will be entitled to the interim dividend of 0.75 cents.

• SEDIMENTARY HOLDINGS: SH, the Sydney explorer 19.9 per cent owned by Rothschild/AUR, is recommending a one-for-two bonus after an extraordinary profit of Aus\$9.6 million (\$4.28 million), made by offshoot Sedgold from the sale of a 62.5 per cent interest in the Croydon gold mining venture in Central Queensland.

• CRAXIE PRINT: Dividend 1.65p (1.5p) for year to June 30. Turnover \$9,712,015 (\$8,234,075). Pretax profit £1,204,102 (£1,048,255). Tax £303,665 (£314,276). Profit attributable £900,437 (£733,979). Extraordinary credit nil (£28,125). Earnings per share 8.3p (6.8p).

• HUGGIN GROUP: Turnover for the six months to June 30 was £64.5 million (£14.7 million). Pretax profit £1.9 million (£0.375 million).

• LONDON ATLANTIC INVESTMENT TRUST:

Results for the 18 months to September 30. Interim dividend 2.1p (1.95p) payable December 12. Gross revenue \$718,002 (£790,782). Underwriting commission \$91,553 (\$48,248). Management expenses \$68,812 (£65,418). Interest payable \$70,157 (£72,822). Pretax profit \$79,033 (£57,542). Tax \$175,317 (£174,967). Earnings per share 3.54p (3.09p). Net asset value per share 253.0p (208.4p).

• FLEMING JAPANESE INVESTMENT TRUST: Results for the 14 months to September 30. Interim dividend 4p (4p) payable December 23. Gross revenue (investment income) — franked dividends £188,745 (£115,932), unfranked dividends £89,705 (£39,906). Unfranked interest £743,957 (£543,471). Deposit interest £394,767 (£351,389). Interest £386,106 (£22,728). Tax £508,107 (£462,974). Earnings per share 4.99p (4.10p). Dividend payable December 12.

• HUNTING ASSOCIATED INVESTMENTS: Results for the six months to June 30. Turnover 147,810 (107,572), trading profit 3,395 (4,850), interest 2,085 (2,646). Related companies 112 (250). Profit before tax 4,022 (2,930). Tax 1,450 (1,097). Minorities 49 (262). Extraordinary debt 275 (0). Earnings per share: basic 15.9p (9.5p) and fully diluted 13.1p (8.7p). Dividend payable December 12.

• HARTONS GROUP: Hartons' distribution subsidiary in America, Central Plastics Distributors Inc, has bought the PVC plastic rod and foam sheet distribution business of Wegener North America Inc and its associated company, Crystallite Marketing Inc, for \$280,000 cash.

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• BISHCHI TIN:

Half-year to June 30. Figures in £000s. No interim (nil). Turnover 136 (156). Group profit 72 (41). Interest payable 2 (1). Profit before tax 70 (40); after tax 49 (27). Extraordinary debt 6 (3). Earnings per share before extraordinary items 0.75p (0.41p).

• PEEL HOLDINGS: Results for the six months to June 30. Figures in £000s. Turnover 2,348 (1,193). Operating profit 56 (loss 263). Interest payable 29 (22). Tax credit nil (46). Profit after tax 27 (loss 239). Earnings per share 0.24p (loss 2.70p).

• SANGERS: Results for the six months to August 31. Interim dividend 0.8p (0.75p), payable January 2. Figures in £000s: turnover 13,552 (11,141), trading profit 632 (289), interest payable 1 (23 received), pretax profit 631 (312), tax 221 (127), extraordinary debt 76 (nil). Earnings per share 3.22p (1.85p).

• EDMOND HOLDINGS: The company has agreed to purchase Sengard Homes, a privately owned Northampton house builder, for £4.2 million, subject to contract and shareholders' approval. The consideration will comprise £2.1 million cash with the balance represented by the issue of 10,500,000 shares for 20p.

• J BILLAM: Results for the six months to June 30. Interim dividend 1.562p (1.46p). Turnover 1,174,315 (1,139,341). Pretax profit 145,875 (139,662). Tax 50,000 (28,000). Extraordinary debt nil (45,000). Earnings per share 6.39p (6.78p). Dividend payable December 12.

• CLOCAI GOLD MINES: Clogau has bought the mining leases for the Goldfield and Golden Arrow prospects in Nevada. Exploration at Golden Arrow shows gross potential of 18 million tons of oxidized mineralization. Goldfield has target resource of 1 million tons.

• INVESTMENT AB BELIER: The company has been granted permission by the Bank of Finland for a listing on the Helsinki stock exchange in early November. The company plans to place up to 250,000 series "B" unrestricted shares.

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Co-operative Bank	11.00%
C. Hoare & Co	11.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	11.00%
Lloyds Bank	11.00%
Nat Westminster	11.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	11.00%
TSB	11.00%
Citibank NA	11.00%

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US NOTEBOOK

Emerging snake hypnotizes the US

From Maxwell Newton
New York

Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of the Treasury, has lost out to the Japanese, the Germans and the Swiss, who have persistently complained about the American policy, introduced by Mr Beryl Sprinkel in 1981, when he first entered the Treasury, of a "free floating" dollar.

We have now entered into a world of "narrow banded" exchange rates. Since early July, in the case of the yen and the Swiss franc, and since early August, in the case of the mark, these major currencies have been held in a "narrow band" of fluctuation with the dollar.

New world

The "narrow bands" for the major currencies appear to be:

- Mark 49-51 US cents;
- Swiss franc 60-62 cents;
- Yen 64-66 cents.

On Thursday, the mark opened at 50.82 but by the close had been pulled back to 50.73 (December contract). The Swiss opened at 62.20 but by the close was down to 61.96. The yen opened at 65.03 but by the close was down to 64.52.

Of the three central banks — who are presumably hand-in-glove with the Fed — the Japanese are controlling their currency most closely. This is because of much greater leverage available to the Japanese authorities (in the Bank of Japan and in the Ministry of Finance) in controlling many economic aggregates at once through the "club" atmosphere in which major policy issues in Japan are decided and administered.

A new world of fixed exchange rates is emerging. Many other currencies are tied to the dollar and hence are tied into the emerging "snake".

No shrinking

The loser in this will be the US, which is fast losing all policy flexibility. With the exchange rate fixed, with the Fed impotent (following the failure of the "gang of four" expansionary money policy culminating in the four discount rate cuts this year) and with fiscal policy in anarchy, how is the American economy going to shift off dead centre?

Some argue that the degree of dollar devaluation so far attained against the leading currencies will do the trick.

But in the first quarter 1986, out of a total currency account deficit (annual rate) of \$122.7 billion, \$51.3 billion was with Japan, \$26.3 billion with Western Europe and \$45.1 billion with the other regions. There is no indication yet that the dollar amount of the bilateral deficit with Japan is contracting.

Hence, it will be a long time until the broad-based devaluation of the dollar is sufficient to reduce the trade deficit by an amount sufficient to make a dent in its present negative impact on domestic American economic growth.

Meanwhile, the effect of "narrow banding" is to encourage foreigners to continue to expand their investments in the US, something that has the effect of keeping the dollar up — and keeping the trade deficit up.

Mr Baker appears to have lost an important battle, if not the war.

Stagnation

The success of the foreigners is borne out by the weakness of industrial production and business sales in the US.

Industrial production rose 0.1 per cent in September following a revised increase of the July number from a fall of 0.1 per cent to a rise of 0.5 per cent. In August, industrial production rose 0.1 per cent. A glance at the quarterly numbers, shows clearly that industrial production has not changed to any significant extent since the third quarter of 1985.

Industrial production in the September quarter was 0.2 per cent greater than in the September quarter of 1985 and 1.4 per cent greater than in the September quarter of 1984 — a negligible increase. Thus, for two years, American industrial production has stagnated and it is continuing to stagnate.

There is no doubt that the position of business has deteriorated, in an operating sense. Since the third quarter of 1985, business sales have risen 0.7 per cent to July-August this year, while business inventories have risen 2.2 per cent — three times as fast as sales have risen.

This is a situation that is discouraging for business — leading to decisions to cut or restrain output and to contain or cut capital expansion programmes.

Two-month delay in implementing new agreement

Arab politics slows down Opec's quota calculations

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

After more than two weeks of intensive and intense discussions, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries appear to have given itself another two months to calculate a series of percentages, which seemingly could be done in seconds on a pocket calculator.

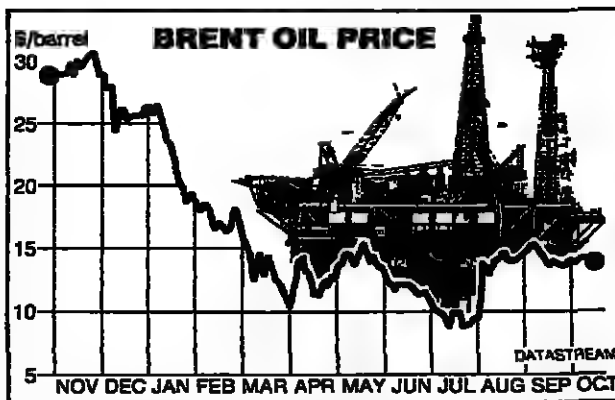
The fact that it is on the result of these calculations that the price of oil will depend during next year makes it seem absurd that the oil producers appear so indecisive. Opec calculates that its 13 member nations have been losing \$100 million a day between them while the oil price has slumped this year, so why the delay in taking a decision which will send the price back upwards?

The answer is politics and Arab politics at that. While Opec has members from Indonesia, Latin and South America and Africa, it is also the one forum in the world spotlight where the differing factions in the Arab world are involved, and by necessity have to appear to be acting cohesively.

The fact that two have been at war for more than six years and have their supporters among the other Arab delegations cannot be allowed to become a big issue. The main issue has to remain oil and money.

Opec now has to marry the science of economics with the art of politics, and it is this which is taking time. Progress has been made in Geneva and the mere fact that the countries have accepted that a radical new output quota system will come into force is one of the most significant moments in Opec's 26-year history.

In future, the output system should be set at a meeting



which need take no longer than a day and, with an easily controlled and policed system, Opec hopes that it will once again be in the driving seat when it comes to setting the world oil price. It relinquished that role to the free market last December when it opened the taps and sent production up far in excess of what the industrialized world needed.

That decision was taken partly to hit at North Sea prices and development prospects in retaliation for what Opec saw as Britain reneging on an agreement to keep North Sea output at about the 2.2 million barrel a day mark.

Britain has consistently denied that it gave such an agreement — the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, was the Energy Secretary at the time — and many Opec delegates have taken great delight in his present discomfort in keeping sterling in check — and in any case removed the only mechanism it had of controlling North Sea output when it abolished the state oil trader, the British National Oil Corporation.

However, the main reason for the change in Opec policy last December was Saudi Arabia's determination to stop the bickering and cheating within the organization. The kingdom and its neigh-

economic condition and production ability. Iran, for instance, used to be able to pump out six million barrels a day from its oilfields, but because of war damage to its terminals it has to keep output at about two million barrels.

Under the scheme, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait receive increased production quotas in return for the production sacrifices they have made over the past six years to keep up the price.

Sheikh Ali Khalifa, the Kuwaiti oil minister, has been the architect of the new quota system, promoting ideas he first voiced in Vienna more than a year ago that the time has now come for Opec to adopt a more scientific approach to its negotiations. He has been backed by Saudi Arabia, although its support has never been strong enough to mean any embarrassment for the kingdom if the plan were rejected.

Sheikh Ali Khalifa started the Geneva meeting as the lone voice in the conference room and gradually persuaded the other ministers to accept.

Between now and Opec's next meeting on December 14, the final figures will be calculated and in the meantime it seems that the output quota system in force for September and October will be rolled over until then.

The adoption of that system sent the world oil price up from just under \$10 a barrel to just above \$15 and some oil traders in Geneva were predicting that the markets will today start marking the oil price back up.

Opec's aim is still for a price of between \$17 and \$19 by the end of this year and how they hope to achieve it will no doubt be explained this week by Sheikh Ali Khalifa and by Opec's president, Mr Rikman Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister, when they are in London.

Concern over squeeze on high streets

By Judith Huntley
Commercial Property Correspondent

Insurance companies and pension funds have \$9 billion invested in the fabric of Britain's high streets. They are concerned about the threat to town centre shopping posed by the multitude of out-of-town shopping centres planned throughout the country and the impact they will have on property values.

Mr Michael Mallinson, the director of Prudential Port-

folio Managers, part of the Prudential Corporation, says that out-of-town retailing will grow rapidly but equity investment in the property will be "bumpy, lumpy and risky — nevertheless I shall participate."

He spoke at the recent Confederation of British Industry-Edward Erdman conference during which it was announced that in future the Government will scrutinize all retail developments of more than 250,000 sq ft. Mr Mallinson does not

believe that town centre shopping will die in the face of competition from out-of-town retailing, but he is raising doubts over the value of such properties.

The yields for town centre retail property, once the best in the sector, have been rising as rental growth slows down. Despite this Mr Mallinson says his retail portfolio is still showing good positive performance. There are problems, however, for the investor who is looking to go out-of-town. Schemes could have a maxi-

mum life of 30 years with high expenditure needed to maintain competitiveness. And there is likely to be an element of oversupply, says Mr Mallinson.

He believes that both town centre and out-of-town retailing will survive and flourish — "Not only is retailing in a state of radical change, so too is financial packaging. At present this laps at the shores of property but I am convinced that it will shortly sweep over us, giving great opportunities to those with insight."

GILT-EDGED

Sharp movement likely over next few months

Over the next few weeks the truth of the ancient Chinese curse "may you live in interesting times" will be of particular relevance to the gilt-edged market for two reasons.

First, there will be the changes in the structure and organization of the gilt-edged market on October 27. Secondly, we have to cope with the consequences of the sharp fall in the market over the past few months, particularly September and early October. It seems likely that these factors will interact over the next few months to create sharp movement in the general level of the gilt-edged market.

As no doubt everyone knows, on October 27 the traditional separation of agency broking from jobbing or market making in gilts will be abolished. Although developments in gilts will, to some extent, mirror changes in other British markets there are likely to be considerable differences as well because the Bank of England has devised a structure for the gilt market which it is, in effect, imposing on the 27 market makers in the new era.

There is not much uncertainty about how the new system will work — even if most of the market makers are not sure whether they can make money out of it.

All market makers will be obliged to make two-way prices to their clients in all gilts under all conditions. They can deal direct with clients and need not be restricted to dealing only with agency brokers. We believe that in practice no commissions will be charged on institutional business by any market maker and all deals will be done "net" on a principal to principal basis.

As far as the secondary market is concerned, the new structure is markedly different from the previous system and much closer to the practice of the American or Japanese bond markets. We believe that the changes in the gilt market will largely benefit investors. Further-

more, there will be increased turnover which will bring greater liquidity.

The reduction in the cost of dealing will probably give rise to a much greater amount of trading in gilts.

There is likely to be a substantially increased volume of dealing between market makers since there will be as many as 27 of them. In turn this will probably lead to an increase in volatility as the market jumps about in attempts to find the correct level.

There is some evidence that this is happening already. There is evidence that the increased volatility of gilts over the past two months has arisen at least partly from the activities of firms who do not have business connections with an existing gilt jobber and who have started trading gilts outside the Stock Exchange.

Although an increase in trading in the market does not necessarily lead to greater volatility, the larger amounts of capital that gilt-edged markets makers will be devoting to the market will have the effect of encouraging them to trade the market and to move it around in order to generate a return.

At this critical juncture in the history of the market we have also to contend with the aftermath of the recent sharp rise in long-term interest rates, with yields of 11 per cent now quite common on gilt-edged securities. Even if the market was not acquiring a tendency to greater volatility, recent events will be pushing it in that direction.

Although there has been some bad news, the fall in the market has been exaggerated substantially by the factors making for an increase in volatility, mentioned above. One result has been a substantial increase in the yield difference between medium-dated British and American bonds, which now stands at nearly 350 basis points — up 100 basis points from the situation obtaining at the end of July. Two years

ago the differential was close to zero.

The main effect of the recent sharp rises in gilt yields has been that, taking 1986 as a whole, the gilt-edged market has hardly benefited from the Plaza agreement which led to co-ordinated interest rate cuts in the Group of Five economies.

Although there have been a number of ingredients influencing the latest fall there is no doubt that, apart from problems with sterling, the difficulty from the domestic point of view has been the apparent laxity of credit conditions in recent months.

Whether the 1 percentage point base rate rise announced last Tuesday will be sufficient to reassure the markets on this front is not yet clear. However, the principle of the rise having been conceded, it should not be too hard to do something more which would reassure the markets. Despite the Chancellor's agnosticism in Thursday's Mansion House speech, effective measures might include a further rise in short rates — or more controversially, the introduction of measures to restrict the growth of mortgage lending or consumer credit.

As a prospective market maker I feel that this is all to the good. At least if the market is strong it will be easier to make money and there will not be, at first, too many rumours about people losing large sums of money as there have been over the past few months.

In the longer term, though, it looks as though it will be difficult for the market makers to earn adequate returns on their £600 million of capital. I follow the popular view that some market makers will feel constrained eventually to scale down their operations — or to drop out altogether.

Dr Richard Golding
Head of bond market research at Kleinwort Grieson Charlesworth

COMMENT

A temporary repair for monetary policy

There are two things that one should remember about monetary policy. The first is that, at any one time, no-one can define precisely what it is. The second is Milton Friedman's old adage, that the level of interest rates is a meaningless indicator of the tightness of monetary policy.

With these in mind, we can turn to the great monetary question of the day, the question which has exercised many a brilliant mind in the past two or three weeks. Is 1 percentage point, taking bank base rates to 11 per cent, enough?

But, before answering this, we need to set the scene. The statement that no-one can actually tell what monetary policy is, except in retrospect, is one that some, perhaps even the Chancellor, would challenge.

But it is true. Take, for example, last Tuesday's increase in base rates. Interest rates were lifted, Mr Lawson said at the Mansion House, because the growth in narrow money, M0, was accelerating and because the exchange rate was weak. It had nothing to do, he added, with the growth of broad money and credit.

Now, supposing this to be true, the timing of the rate rise looks a little odd. The Bank of England would have picked up the acceleration in M0 growth last month quite early, certainly during the month. And the pound was weak enough last month to require substantial intervention and a \$372 million underlying fall in the reserves.

The citing of M0 as one of the triggers for the rate rise was also rather puzzling. It had seemed to be the case that the target range for M0 was 2 to 6 per cent. Now it appears that there are divergence indicators within that target range. Growth of 4.5 per cent in M0 was bad enough to persuade the Chancellor that the exchange rate was telling him that something was wrong, but growth of 18.3 per cent was not. Again, monetary policy can only be read in retrospect.

There is much to be said for continuity in policy, and most of all in monetary policy. It would be good if we had it.

A year ago, also at the Mansion House, Mr Lawson said: "If, contrary to our expectations, the rapid growth of broad money were to show up as higher spending one would expect to see early money signals in the growth of M0."

In its June *Quarterly Bulletin*, the Bank of England cited three factors which would indicate that liquidity, which had built up rapidly as a result of strong broad money growth, was no longer being willingly held. The first was higher pay settlements, which we probably are not seeing. The second was a shift of liquidity abroad by

financial institutions and a consequent fall in sterling, which we probably are seeing. And the third was additional consumption by households, which we certainly are seeing.

But, despite the balance of the evidence, including his own pet M0 aggregate, the Chancellor could declare last Thursday that: "There is every sign that people are holding the increased amounts of broad money quite willingly. And so long as this is so, its growth is not inflationary."

Leaving aside the Governor of the Bank of England's view, also expressed at the Mansion House, that "liquidity and credit have in fact been growing uncomfortably fast," it is perhaps understandable for the Chancellor to prefer to focus on the growth of narrow money. Other Chancellors have done so.

Had Anthony (now Lord) Barber had the benefit of M0, rather than M1, figures in the early 1970s, they would have shown growth of 12 per cent in 1972 and under 11 per cent in 1973. Worrying, but not enough to cause any major panics. The relatively restrained growth of narrow money was comforting to the authorities in this period. But M3 grew by nearly 30 per cent a year, and its growth certainly was inflationary.

To return to the question: is 1 per cent enough? Enough for what? Is an appropriate, but not particularly helpful answer, so let us take it step by step. Is it enough to stop the exchange rate from falling? It did not on Friday and there is every reason to suppose that it will not in the next few days. But sterling will get to the point when it is clearly overshooting and, on exchange rate grounds alone, there is a case for toughing it out with the markets.

Is it enough to rein back accelerating M0 growth, charitably assuming that Mr Lawson was not speaking with forked tongue when he mentioned it? Probably yes. A one-point rise in base rates should have the effect of shifting enough growth in non-interest bearing narrow money into interest-bearing broad money as to claw back M0 growth from 4.5 to 4 per cent.

Finally, is one point enough to deliver low inflation in the medium term? Almost certainly not. The difficulty with liquidity is that if you allow it to build up, it has a habit of leaking out. Mr Lawson is the ministerial equivalent of the 24-hour plumber. He has effected, when he could at last be contacted, a temporary repair. But the chances are that he will have to be called out again.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

Thames Water

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF RESULTS FOR THE HALF
YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1986

	6 months to 30th September		12 months to 31st March	
	1986 £M	1985 £M	*1987 £M	1986 £M
Turnover	270.9	244.8	553.3	501.4
Trading Profit	102.4	91.7	207.3	184.4
Interest	(13.3)	(18.9)	(23.6)	(34.5)
Profit after interest	89.1	72.8	183.7	149.9

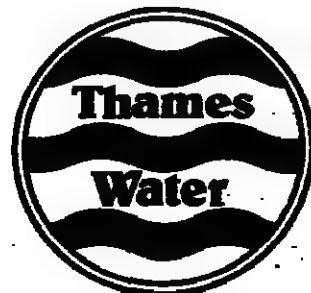
NOTES

1. This unaudited statement has been prepared under the same accounting policies used in the statutory accounts for the 12 months ended on 31st March, 1986.
2. Trading profit is stated after charging depreciation on the basis of historical costs.
3. Thames Water is not liable for corporation tax.
- 4.* The 12 months figures to 31st March 1987 are forecasts based on expectations in October 1986.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN, ROY WATTS, C.B.E.

Commenting on the results, Roy Watts, Chairman of Thames Water Authority said "Against a background price rise of only 3 per cent, our continuing efficiency drive both in operational and in capital expenditure terms, has resulted in the first half year's profit target being exceeded. We anticipate that the second half year will also exceed target. Between September 1985 and September 1986 we repaid £58m of our outstanding loans as well as meeting all capital expenditure from internal funds.

We are actively selling our expertise both at home and abroad to provide future profits for the benefit of our customers."



RUNNING WATER FOR YOU

Thames Water, Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading RG1 8DB.

TODAY - Interims: Bartsey, Barrows, Clayform Properties, Forward Technology, Industries, John J Lees, Snowdon and Bridge, Sovereign Oil and Gas, Triefus, Usher-Walker, Finals: Highland Distilleries, Lowland Investment Company, Manganese Holdings.

TOMORROW - Interims: Ambrose Investment Trust, British and American Film Holdings, Desnitron International, Derwent Valley Holdings, First Charlotte Assets Trust, Hughes Food Group, Sleight Holdings, Underwoods, Walker Runciman, Western Brothers, Final: Prestwick Holdings.

WEDNESDAY - Interims: Carlton Industries, El Oro Mining and Exploration Company, Exploration Company.

Hammerson Group, Hawker Siddeley, Securities Trust of Scotland, Union Carbide Corporation, Finals: International City Holdings, W M Sinclair Holdings.

THURSDAY - Interims: Anchor Chemicals, British and Commercial Shipping, Feb International Holdings, French Connection, Gennard and National, N Hay, London and Northern Group, Shell Oil, Finals: British Assets Trust, Investors Capital Trust, McKechie Brothers, Pressac Holdings, Rand Mines Properties, Really Useful Group.

FRIDAY - Interims: Clayton Son and Company Holdings, Dean and Bowes, Photax, Smallbone, Toshiba Corporation, E Upton and Sons, Finals: Ensign Trust.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Base Rates %

Overnight: 11 1/2
Discount: 10 1/2
Overnight: 11 1/2
Week: 10 1/2

Treasury Bills (Discount %)

3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)

1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

Trade Bills (Discount %)

1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

Interbank %

Overnight: 10 1/2
1 week: 11 1/2
1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

Local Authority Deposits %

2 days: 10 1/2
7 days: 10 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

Local Authority Bonds %

1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

Sterling Cds %

1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

Dollar Cds %

1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

GOLD

Gold: \$420.00-420.75
Silver: \$10.00-10.25
Platinum: \$500.00-500.50
Gold: \$420.00-420.75
Silver: \$10.00-10.25
Platinum: \$500.00-500.50

TREASURY BILLS

1 month: 11 1/2
3 month: 11 1/2
6 month: 11 1/2
12 month: 11 1/2

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates: 1.4320-1.4330
October 17: 1.4315-1.4325
November 17: 1.4310-1.4320
December 17: 1.4305-1.4315
January 17: 1.4300-1.4310
February 17: 1.4295-1.4305
March 17: 1.4290-1.4300
April 17: 1.4285-1.4295
May 17: 1.4280-1.4290
June 17: 1.4275-1.4285
July 17: 1.4270-1.4280
August 17: 1.4265-1.4275
September 17: 1.4260-1.4270
October 17: 1.4255-1.4265
November 17: 1.4250-1.4260
December 17: 1.4245-1.4255
January 17: 1.4240-1.4250
February 17: 1.4235-1.4245
March 17: 1.4230-1.4240
April 17: 1.4225-1.4235
May 17: 1.4220-1.4230
June 17: 1.4215-1.4225
July 17: 1.4210-1.4220
August 17: 1.4205-1.4215
September 17: 1.4200-1.4210
October 17: 1.4195-1.4205
November 17: 1.4190-1.4200
December 17: 1.4185-1.4195
January 17: 1.4180-1.4190
February 17: 1.4175-1.4185
March 17: 1.4170-1.4180
April 17: 1.4165-1.4175
May 17: 1.4160-1.4170
June 17: 1.4155-1.4165
July 17: 1.4150-1.4160
August 17: 1.4145-1.4155
September 17: 1.4140-1.4150
October 17: 1.4135-1.4145
November 17: 1.4130-1.4140
December 17: 1.4125-1.4135
January 17: 1.4120-1.4130
February 17: 1.4115-1.4125
March 17: 1.4110-1.4120
April 17: 1.4105-1.4115
May 17: 1.4100-1.4110
June 17: 1.4095-1.4105
July 17: 1.4090-1.4100
August 17: 1.4085-1.4095
September 17: 1.4080-1.4090
October 17: 1.4075-1.4085
November 17: 1.4070-1.4080
December 17: 1.4065-1.4075
January 17: 1.4060-1.4070
February 17: 1.4055-1.4065
March 17: 1.4050-1.4060
April 17: 1.4045-1.4055
May 17: 1.4040-1.4050
June 17: 1.4035-1.4045
July 17: 1.4030-1.4040
August 17: 1.4025-1.4035
September 17: 1.4020-1.4030
October 17: 1.4015-1.4025
November 17: 1.4010-1.4020
December 17: 1.4005-1.4015
January 17: 1.4000-1.4010
February 17: 1.3995-1.4005
March 17: 1.3990-1.4000
April 17: 1.3985-1.3995
May 17: 1.3980-1.3990
June 17: 1.3975-1.3985
July 17: 1.3970-1.3980
August 17: 1.3965-1.3975
September 17: 1.3960-1.3970
October 17: 1.3955-1.3965
November 17: 1.3950-1.3960
December 17: 1.3945-1.3955
January 17: 1.3940-1.3950
February 17: 1.3935-1.3945
March 17: 1.3930-1.3940
April 17: 1.3925-1.3935
May 17: 1.3920-1.3930
June 17: 1.3915-1.3925
July 17: 1.3910-1.3920
August 17: 1.3905-1.3915
September 17: 1.3900-1.3910
October 17: 1.3895-1.3905
November 17: 1.3890-1.3900
December 17: 1.3885-1.3895
January 17: 1.3880-1.3890
February 17: 1.3875-1.3885
March 17: 1.3870-1.3880
April 17: 1.3865-1.3875
May 17: 1.3860-1.3870
June 17: 1.3855-1.3865
July 17: 1.3850-1.3860
August 17: 1.3845-1.3855
September 17: 1.3840-1.3850
October 17: 1.3835-1.3845
November 17: 1.3830-1.3840
December 17: 1.3825-1.3835
January 17: 1.3820-1.3830
February 17: 1.3815-1.3825
March 17: 1.3810-1.3820
April 17: 1.3805-1.3815
May 17: 1.3800-1.3810
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July 17: 1.3790-1.3800
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September 17: 1.3780-1.3790
October 17: 1.3775-1.3785
November 17: 1.3770-1.3780
December 17: 1.3765-1.3775
January 17: 1.3760-1.3770
February 17: 1.3755-1.3765
March 17: 1.3750-1.3760
April 17: 1.3745-1.3755
May 17: 1.3740-1.3750
June 17: 1.3735-1.3745
July 17: 1.3730-1.3740
August 17: 1.3725-1.3735
September 17: 1.3720-1.3730
October 17: 1.3715-1.3725
November 17: 1.3710-1.3720
December 17: 1.3705-1.3715
January 17: 1.3700-1.3710
February 17: 1.3695-1.3705
March 17: 1.3690-1.3700
April 17: 1.3685-1.3695
May 17: 1.3680-1.3690
June 17: 1.3675-1.3685
July 17: 1.3670-1.3680
August 17: 1.3665-1.3675
September 17: 1.3660-1.3670
October 17: 1.3655-1.3665
November 17: 1.3650-1.3660
December 17: 1.3645-1.3655
January 17: 1.3640-1.3650
February 17: 1.3635-1.3645
March 17: 1.3630-1.3640
April 17: 1.3625-1.3635
May 17: 1.3620-1.3630
June 17: 1.3615-1.3625
July 17: 1.3610-1.3620
August 17: 1.3605-1.3615
September 17: 1.3600-1.3610
October 17: 1.3595-1.3605
November 17: 1.3590-1.3600
December 17: 1.3585-1.3595
January 17: 1.3580-1.3590
February 17: 1.3575-1.3585
March 17: 1.3570-1.3580
April 17: 1.3565-1.3575
May 17: 1.3560-1.3570
June 17: 1.3555-1.3565
July 17: 1.3550-1.3560
August 17: 1.3545-1.3555
September 17: 1.3540-1.3550
October 17: 1.3535-1.3545
November 17: 1.3530-1.3540
December 17: 1.3525-1.3535
January 17: 1.3520-1.3530
February 17: 1.3515-1.3525
March 17: 1.3510-1.3520
April 17: 1.3505-1.3515
May 17: 1.3500-1.3510
June 17: 1.3495-1.3505
July 17: 1.3490-1.3500
August 17: 1.3485-1.3495
September 17: 1.3480-1.3490
October 17: 1.3475-1.3485
November 17: 1.3470-1.3480
December 17: 1.3465-1.3475
January 17: 1.3460-1.3470
February 17: 1.3455-1.3465
March 17: 1.3450-1.3460
April 17: 1.3445-1.3455
May 17: 1.3440-1.3450
June 17: 1.3435-1.3445
July 17: 1.3430-1.3440
August 17: 1.3425-1.3435
September 17: 1.3420-1.3430
October 17: 1.3415-1.3425
November 17: 1.3410-1.3420
December 17: 1.3405-1.3415
January 17: 1.3400-1.3410
February 17: 1.3395-1.3405
March 17: 1.3390-1.3400
April 17: 1.3385-1.3395
May 17: 1.3380-1.3390
June 17: 1.3375-1.3385
July 17: 1.3370-1.3380
August 17: 1.3365-1.3375
September 17: 1.3360-1.3370
October 17: 1.3355-1.3365
November 17: 1.3350-1.3360
December 17: 1.3345-1.3355
January 17: 1.3340-1.3350
February 17: 1.3335-1.3345
March 17: 1.3330-1.3340
April 17: 1.3325-1.3335
May 17: 1.3320-1.3330
June 17: 1.3315-1.3325
July 17: 1.3310-1.3320
August 17: 1.3305-1.3315
September 17: 1.3300-1.3310
October 17: 1.3295-1.3305
November 17: 1.3290-1.3300
December 17: 1.3285-1.3295
January 17: 1.3280-1.3290
February 17: 1.3275-1.3285
March 17: 1.3270-1.3280
April 17: 1.3265-1.3275
May 17: 1.3260-1.3270
June 17: 1.3255-1.3265
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August 17: 1.3245-1.3255
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November 17: 1.3170-1.3180
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January 17: 1.3160-1.3170
February 17: 1.3155-1.3165
March 17: 1.3150-1.3160
April 17: 1.3145-1.3155
May 17: 1.3140-1.3150
June 17: 1.3135-1.3145
July 17: 1.3130-1.3140
August 17: 1.3125-1.3135
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October 17: 1.3115-1.3125
November 17: 1.3110-1.3120
December 17: 1.3105-1.3115
January 17: 1.3100-1.3110
February 17: 1.3095-1.3105
March 17: 1.3090-1.3100
April 17: 1.3085-1.3095
May 17: 1.3080-1.3090
June 17: 1.3075-1.3085
July 17: 1.3070-1.3080
August 17: 1.3065-1.3075
September 17: 1.3060-1.3070
October 17: 1.3055-1.3065
November 17: 1.3050-1.3060
December 17: 1.3045-1.3055
January 17: 1.3040-1.3050
February 17: 1.3035-1.3045
March 17: 1.3030-1.3040
April 17: 1.3025-1.3035
May 17: 1.3020-1.3030
June 17: 1.3015-1.3025
July 17: 1.3010-1.3020
August 17: 1.3005-1.3015
September 17: 1.3000-1.3010
October 17: 1.2995-1.3005
November 17: 1.2990-1.3000
December 17: 1.2985-1.2995
January 17: 1.2980-1.2990
February 17: 1.2975-1.2985
March 17: 1.2970-1.2980
April 17: 1.2965-1.2975
May 17: 1.2960-1.2970
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July 17: 1.2950-1.2960
August 17: 1.2945-1.2955
September 17: 1.2940-1.2950
October 17: 1.2935-1.2945
November 17: 1.2930-1.2940
December 17: 1.2925-1.2935
January 17: 1.2920-1.2930
February 17: 1.2915-1.2925
March 17: 1.2910-1.2920
April 17: 1.2905-1.2915
May 17: 1.2900-1.2910
June 17: 1.2895-1.2905
July 17: 1.2890-1.2900
August 17: 1.2885-1.2895
September 17: 1.2880-1.2890
October 17: 1.2875-1.2885
November 17: 1.2870-1.2880
December 17: 1.2865-1.2875
January 17: 1.2860-1.2870
February 17: 1.2855-1.2865
March 17: 1.2850-1.2860
April 17: 1.2845-1.2855
May 17: 1.2840-1.2850
June 17: 1.2835-1.2845
July 17: 1.2830-1.2840
August 17: 1.2825-1.2835
September 17: 1.2820-1.2830
October 17: 1.2815-1.2825
November 17: 1.2810-1.2820
December 17: 1.2805-1.2815
January 17: 1.2800-1.2810
February 17: 1.2795-1.2805
March 17: 1.2790-1.2800
April 17: 1.2785-1.2795
May 17: 1.2780-1.2790
June 17: 1.2775-1.2785
July 17: 1.2770-1.2780
August 17: 1.2765-1.2775
September 17: 1.2760-1.2770
October 17: 1.2755-1.2765
November 17: 1.2750-1.2760
December 17: 1.2745-1.2755
January 17: 1.2740-1.2750
February 17: 1.2735-1.2745
March 17: 1.2730-1.2740
April 17: 1.2725-1.2735
May 17: 1.2720-1.2730
June 17: 1.2715-1.2725
July 17: 1.2710-1.2720
August 17: 1.2705-1.2715
September 17: 1.2700-1.2710
October 17: 1.2695-1.2705
November 17: 1.2690-1.2700
December 17: 1.2685-1.2695
January 17: 1.2680-1.2690
February 17: 1.2675-1.2685
March 17: 1.2670-1.2680
April 17: 1.2665-1.2675
May 17: 1.2660-1.2670
June 17: 1.2655-1.2665
July 17: 1.2650-1.2660
August 17: 1.2645-1.2655
September 17: 1.2640-1.2650
October 17: 1.2635-1.2645
November 17: 1.2630-1.2640
December 17: 1.2625-1.2635
January 17: 1.2620-1.2630
February 17: 1.2615-1.2625
March 17: 1.2610-1.2620
April 17: 1.2605-1.2615
May 17: 1.2600-1.2610
June 17: 1.2595-1.2605
July 17: 1.2590-1.2600
August 17: 1.2585-1.2595
September 17: 1.2580-1.2590
October 17: 1.2575-1.2585
November 17: 1.2570-1.2580
December 17: 1.2565-1.2575
January 17: 1.2560-1.2570
February 17: 1.2555-1.2565
March 17: 1.2550-1.2560
April 17: 1.2545-1.2555
May 17: 1.2540-1.2550
June 17: 1.2535-1.2545
July 17: 1.2530-1.2540
August 17: 1.2525-1.2535
September 17: 1.2520-1.2530
October 17: 1.2515-1.2525
November 17: 1.2510-1.2520
December 17: 1.2505-1.2515
January 17: 1.2500-1.2510
February 17: 1.2495-1.2505
March 17: 1.2490-1.2500
April 17: 1.2485-1.2495
May 17: 1.2480-1.2490
June 17: 1.2475-1.2485
July 17: 1.2470-1.2480
August 17: 1.2465-1.2475
September 17: 1.2460-1.2470
October 17: 1.2455-1.2465
November 17: 1.2450-1.2460
December 17: 1.2445-1.2455
January 17: 1.2440-1.2450
February 17: 1.2435-1.2445
March 17: 1.2430-1.2440
April 17: 1.2425-1.2435
May 17: 1.2420-1.2430
June 17: 1.2415-1.2425
July 17: 1.2410-1.2420
August 17: 1.2405-1.2415
September 17: 1.2400-1.2410
October 17: 1.2395-1.2405
November 17: 1.2390-1.2400
December 17: 1.2385-1.2395
January 17: 1.2380-1.2390
February 17: 1.2375-1.2385
March 17: 1.2370-1.2380
April 17: 1.2365-1.2375
May 17: 1.2360-1.2370
June 17: 1.2355-1.2365
July 17: 1.2350-1.2360
August 17: 1.2345-1.2355
September 17: 1.2340-1.2350
October 17: 1.2335-1.2345
November 17: 1.2330-1.2340
December 17: 1.2325-1.2335
January 17: 1.2320-1.2330
February 17: 1.2315-1.2325
March 17: 1.2310-1.2320
April 17: 1.2305-1.2315
May 17: 1.2300-1.2310
June 17: 1.2295-1.2305
July 17: 1.2290-1.2300
August 17: 1.2285-1.2295
September 17: 1.2280-1.2290
October 17: 1.2275-1.2285
November 17: 1.2270-1.2280
December 17: 1.2265-1.2275
January 17: 1.2260-1.2270
February 17: 1.2255-1.2265
March 17: 1.2250-1.2260
April 17: 1.2245-1.2255
May 17: 1.2240-1.2250
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June 17: 1.1875-1.1885
July 17: 1.1870-1.1880
August 17: 1.1865-1.1875
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October 17: 1.1855-1.1865
November 17: 1.1850-1.1860
December 17: 1.1845-1.1855
January 17: 1.1840-1.1850
February 17: 1.1835-1.1845
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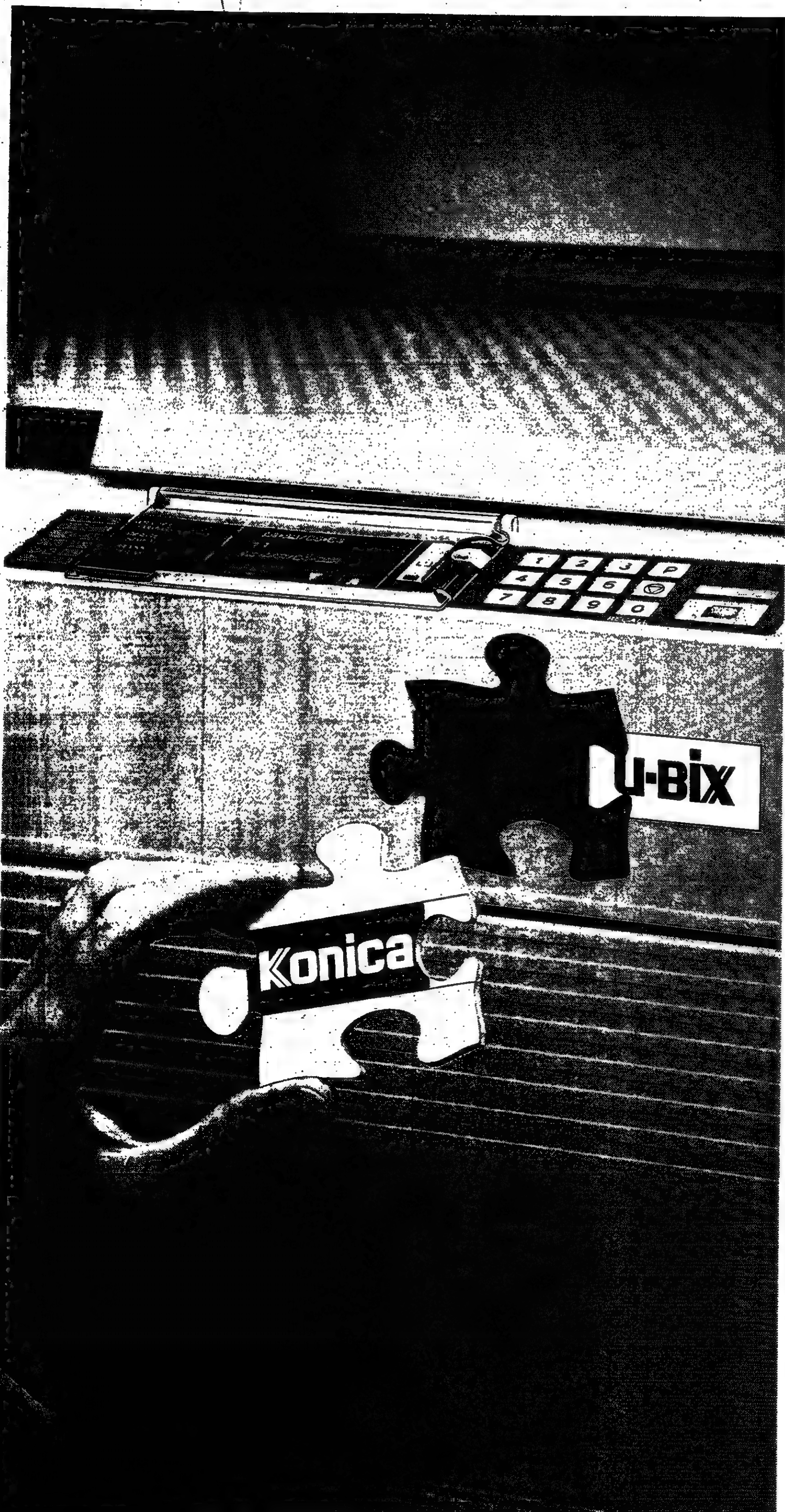
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And finally, the complete picture.



If you've ever puzzled over the name U-BiX, we'd like to put you in the picture.

For years, we've been known as makers of the most reliable copiers in the business, but you probably don't know about our new range of office equipment.

Fax machines, word processors, personal computers, and electronic filing are now as much a part of our business as photocopiers.

That's why we decided it was high time we changed our name.

So from October 1st, we'll be known as Konica Business Machines.

Now you might be wondering what Konica (more famous for their cameras) have to do with U-BiX, and office equipment.

Well, quite simply, both Konica and U-BiX share the same parents. A company called Konishiroku.

After years of working alongside each other, contributing and swapping ideas, it seemed silly not to use the same corporate identity.

After all, both sides have made significant breakthroughs in their similar fields.

Konica for instance, developed and produced the world's first 'through-the-lens' automatic exposure SLR camera. They also produce their own high quality colour film.

And together with our background in consistently excellent copiers, we are about to launch a revolutionary new full colour copier.

Of course this is only one part of our extensive range of office equipment, which includes high quality products right across the board.

Understandably, we're quite proud of our new identity and to celebrate, for a limited period, we're giving away a free camera with every new photocopier or fax machine.

So to complete the picture, just fill in the coupon below and we'll send you the new Konica Business Machines brochure and a free 35mm. Konica colour film.



Konica Business Machines (UK) Ltd, 6 Miles Gray Road, Basildon, Essex, SS14 3AR.
Tel: Basildon (0268) 27872 or dial 100 and ask for Freefone Konica U-BiX.
Fax: (0268) 26030.
I'd like to join the name change celebrations. Please send me a brochure and free Konica 35mm. colour film.

NAME _____ POSITION _____
COMPANY _____
ADDRESS _____
TEL NO. _____
KONICA BUSINESS MACHINES

SEE US ON STAND 130/135 AT THE LONDON BUSINESS EQUIPMENT SHOW (EARLS COURT—OCTOBER 21st-24th)

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Providence	Banks/Discount	
2	McKesson	Building, Roads	
3	Hayward Williams	Breweries	
4	Medford	Breweries	
5	Saurin (off)	Paper/Printing	
6	Dew (George)	Building, Roads	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrials A-D	
8	Tas & Lyle	Food	
9	Marshall (Lusley)	Industrials L-R	
10	Conax	Building, Roads	
11	Tanaka	Building, Roads	
12	Saco	Industrials S-Z	
13	Rothchild (J) Ltd	Banks, Discount	
14	Int Signal & Control	Electronics	
15	Conax	Industrials A-D	
16	Corder Gp	Building, Roads	
17	ASDA-MP	Food	
18	Yorkshire Chem	Chemicals, Plastics	
19	Arcon	Industrials A-D	
20	Wynham Eng	Industrials S-Z	
21	Derford Stamp	Industrials A-D	
22	Woodhead (James)	Motors/Aircraft	
23	Marling	Industrials L-R	
24	Geers Bros	Paper/Printing	
25	Bulmer (HP)	Breweries	
26	Brimd Quince	Industrials A-D	
27	Bellman	Breweries	
28	Audio Fidelity	Electronics	
29	Greenall Whiteley	Breweries	
30	Trent	Building, Roads	
31	Transcontinental	Industrials S-Z	
32	Menzies (John)	Drapery, Stores	
33	Cropper (James)	Paper, Printing	
34	Matthews (Bernard)	Food	
35	Bentalls	Drapery, Stores	
36	Alphacore	Electronics	
37	Red Motor	Motors/Aircraft	
38	BPC	Paper/Printing	
39	Connell	Property	
40	Cater Allen	Banks, Discount	
41	Hewitt (J)	Industrials B-K	
42	Fogarty	Industrials E-K	
43	Watts Blake	Building, Roads	
44	Bejan	Food	

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

Stock	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

UNDATED	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDEX-LINKED	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BANKS DISCOUNT HP	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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1000	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began last Monday. Dealings end October 24. Settlement day October 27. Settlement day November 3.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Company	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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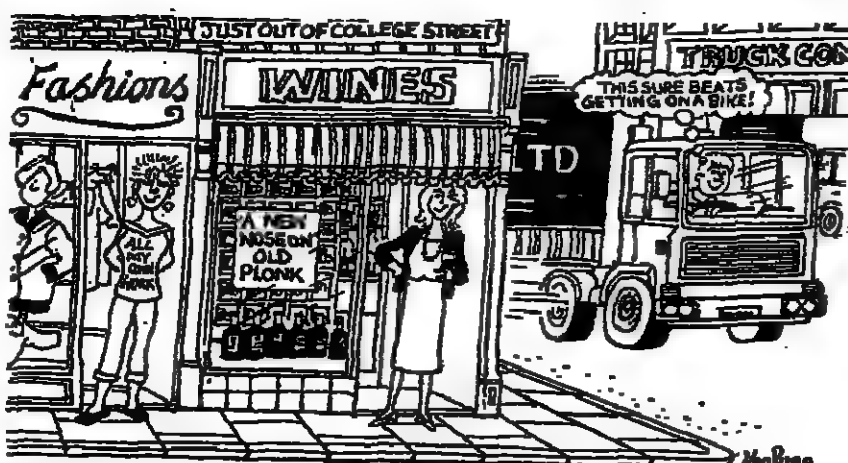
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HORIZONS

A guide to
career choice

The pull of private enterprise

This week Beryl Dixon continues her report on the graduate enterprise programme looking at the individual success of those who have already embarked on this highly challenging new scheme



Catriona Baker owns Cloudberry Clothes in Edinburgh. She had wanted to work in fashion on leaving school, but like so many bright students, was steered away from art college towards university to read philosophy and history. In her final year she reverted to her original idea, and was planning to gain experience by working for someone else, when she saw the Stirling graduate enterprise programme advertised.

Selection was stiff. The first interview with a panel from the local business community was difficult; the final one in Edinburgh more so. "I ended up shouting at one point, and was surprised to get through."

What did the programme give her? "Positive encouragement," she says. "For the first time I met people who did not say 'go and get an ordinary job'. When a difficulty arose, I was helped to find another way out. I gradually saw the future growing in front of me. The two crucial things were the help with my business plan and in raising finance."

Catriona began with an overdraft for 50 per cent of her capital and a family loan for the remainder. She has been able to lease her own shop, but has had to start by producing a smaller range than planned. And, most importantly, has already had to learn to modify some of her original ideas according to the demands of the market. Her selling point is that she designs her own clothes by employing outworkers, but makes up some herself, and is able to offer an individual service to customers. She is now in a position to expand her ranges and has already paid off the family loan.

All graduates start in a small way, usually saving their capital for essentials and economising in other ways. Andrew Ingleson hopes to employ between 10 and 20 people over the next five years, but when he set up his road haulage traction service, Dockspeed, he operated it as a limited company and employed nobody else. Based at his parents' home, he bought a truck, arranged to rent a parking space well away from residential areas, and apart from some help from his mother who agreed to take phone calls in his absence, worked very long hours. He did everything himself: administration, publicity and driving — sleeping in the

truck at times. A small part of his working capital was spent on beaded stationery; everything else went towards getting his truck on the road. Canvassing for business was done partly by phone and largely in person.

Andrew aimed to capitalise on the fact that large companies have been closing down their transport departments in favour of subcontracting, and set out to provide a service pulling trailers between European destinations; at first persuading established haulage firms to subcontract work to him. Last year he said: "I seriously underestimated the problem of raising finance and at one point thought that I would never get a truck on the road." Now he is able to say: "I never expected to get a second truck on the road so quickly."

Julia Staniland is still storing cases of wine "all over the house," but hopes soon to have her own premises. She is importing wines from Bordeaux to sell in her home area of Bedale, North York-

All GEP candidates must be prepared for teething trouble

shire. Unlike Andrew and Catriona, who had ideas about their future careers before university, Julia did not consider either the wine business or self-employment until her third year at Durham. Here in the course of studying French and Russian, she spent some time at Bordeaux university and met some local wine growers.

Cranfield helped her enormously, she says, not only by teaching her everything she knows about running a business, but allowing her to make contact with potential clients when she provided the wines for the end of course dinner attended by industrial sponsors. One of her most valuable aspects has been the after-care and support from accountancy firm Arthur Andersen.

Julia used her market research period to visit every restaurant and wine bar in the area, and has found other clients through word of mouth after supplying wines for local functions. She is at present experimenting with wine tasting events.

All GEP graduates have to expect setbacks. Julia's problem has been the

unreliability of other businesses. Twice she has been let down by transporters who failed to deliver her wines even though she had bought them in France and arranged shipment well in advance. She has had to rush to London and buy bottles from several sources in order to meet her obligations.

All three are grateful for the skills the Graduate Enterprise Programme taught them, and despite teething troubles and initial difficulties are determined to carry on and to expand. But what of the Programme selectors? What do they expect from applicants?

Professor Burns of Cranfield is quite clear. "Personality," he says. "We can work on the idea — help to improve that, but not on the person. Successful entrepreneurs have three things in common: drive, commitment and a rugged personality. That is the vital combination needed to go out and make things happen." "Although we are clearly looking for a good business idea too," he adds.

Last year the Cranfield programme had 36 places. The current programme which commenced on September 5 has 76. Each year's publicity attracts about 200 applicants. The feeling from the final selection panel is however that the quality of this year's applicants is even better — mainly because the first time the counsellors who first interview students and advise them whether to proceed with their applications were not too sure of the standard required.

Paul Burns was hoping for an allocation of 100 places for the autumn 1987 programme. Last week the MSC not only agreed to fund that number, but also suggested a Business Enterprise Programme for a further hundred. This will be a different, slightly shorter scheme, aimed at graduates whose ideas are more appropriate for self-employment than for the Graduate Enterprise Programme, designed to encourage graduates ultimately to employ others. Cranfield has agreed to take the scheme on board, but will now be hoping to attract 400 applications from students due to graduate in 1987 to fill both programmes.

Publicity material is being sent out now to higher education institutions,

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Price Waterhouse Chair of International Business Taxation Tenable at Queen Mary College

The Senate invites applications for the above Chair. The Price Waterhouse Professor will be responsible for developing and directing a teaching and research programme in international business taxation within the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, a Department of the Faculty of Laws. Applicants should have a record of scholarly writing in tax law and an existing interest in international business taxation or a willingness to move into this field.

Applications (10 copies) should be submitted to the Academic Registrar, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU, from whom further particulars should first be obtained.

The closing date for application is 28 November, 1986.

QUEEN MARY COLLEGE

Centre for Commercial Law Studies

The following new posts are available within this expanding Centre, which is a Department of the Faculty of Laws.

Senior Lectureship/Lectureship in Intellectual Property Law

For this post expertise in one or more areas of Intellectual Property Law is required. Additional interests in related areas, in particular, information technology, competition or media law, would be advantageous but not essential.

The successful applicant will be a member of the Intellectual Property Law Unit, directed by Professor Gerald Dworkin, which provides a range of courses in Intellectual Property Law for undergraduate and postgraduate law students and for certificate and postgraduate diploma students. Ref. 86/98.

Herchel Smith Senior Research Fellowship in Intellectual Property Law

To develop a research programme on a particular topic in Intellectual Property Law (preferably in the area of patent or trademark law) under the direction of Professor Gerald Dworkin, and to make a limited contribution to teaching in the Centre's Intellectual Property Law Unit. Ref. 86/99.

Lectureship in Law

Applicants should have knowledge in one or more of the following fields of law: insurance, marine insurance, competition, shipping. Ref. 86/100.

For application forms and further details of any of the above three posts, please write to the Assistant Personnel Officer, Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS and quote the appropriate reference number. Closing date for application is 10 November, 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

Temporary Lectureship

Applications are invited for a Temporary Lectureship in Economic and Social History for one year from 1 October 1987, or such other date as may be agreed. The vacancy arises from Professor Peter Clark's leave of absence during the academic year 1987-8. Candidates should be working on the early modern period, and preference will be given to those with an interest in British urban history.

Initial salary will depend on qualifications and experience on the scale £8,020 to £15,700 (under review).

Further particulars from the Registrar (Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH, to whom applications should be sent on the form provided by 14 November 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

Faculty of Law and Social Sciences

CHAIR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the Chair of Economics in the Department of Economics, which becomes vacant with the retirement of Professor J. R. Parkinson, Head of Department, at the end of the present session.

Salary within the professional range.

Further particulars and application forms returnable not later than 15 December 1986 from the Staff Appointments Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Ref No 1071.

FELLOWSHIPS

Warburg Institute University of London Frances A. Yates Fellowships

One long-term and a limited number of short-term Frances A. Yates Fellowships in cultural and intellectual history will be tenable at the Institute of Warburg Institute, University of London, from 1 September 1987 to 31 August 1988. Long-term Fellowships up to 3 years in the range £5,000-£8,500 p.a. Short-term Fellowships for 1 to 3 months: applicants domiciled in the U.K. £1,000 for 1 month, £1,500 for 2 months, £2,000 for 3 months.

Candidates must have been under 35 on 1 October 1986 with at least 2 years' research experience. Applications by 5 December to the Director, Warburg Institute, Warburg Square, London EC4A 3DF, from whom further particulars should be obtained.

The Leverhulme Trust

RESEARCH AWARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE INDIVIDUAL AWARDS FOR 1987

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS Awards of up to £5,000 to persons experienced in their own field pursuing their own investigations (but not higher degrees or equivalents). Awards tenable for 3 months to 2 years. No subject of enquiry excluded. Applicants must have been educated in the U.K. or other part of the Commonwealth and be normally resident in the U.K. Application form F2A Closing date Thursday, 13th November 1986.

EMERITUS FELLOWSHIPS Awards of up to £4,400 a year for 1 or 2 years to enable persons to complete a piece of research. Applicants must have attained the age of 60, retired by October 1987, and recently held academic positions in universities or other institutions of similar status in the U.K. Application form F2A Closing date Monday, 1st December 1986.

Applications on the appropriate form must be in the hands of the Secretary not later than the date specified and cannot be considered if arriving after that date. Application forms and further information from The Secretary, Research Awards Advisory Committee, The Leverhulme Trust, 19 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3DF. Telephone 01-822 6932.

ST. ANNE'S COLLEGE OXFORD

JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The College invites applications from suitably qualified candidates, for the following Junior Research Fellowships all of which are tenable from 1st October 1987.

KATHLEEN BOURNE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP The Fellowship which is open to men and women, is for research in the field of French language and literature, architecture, art, history, music and philosophy. Candidates must be graduates who are citizens of one of the countries or territories of the British Commonwealth or the Republic of Ireland.

THE DRAPERS' COMPANY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship which is open to men and women, is for research in the field of Mathematics or the Sciences and candidates must be in their second or subsequent year of research. Candidates registered for Doctorates at other Universities are eligible.

Further particulars of the Fellowships may be obtained from the College Secretary and Registrar, St. Anne's College, Oxford, OX2 6BS to whom applications should be sent to reach her not later than 12th December 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

Applications are invited for the following posts:

1. ASSISTANT REGISTRAR responsible for a range of duties largely concerned with the Faculty of Sciences. The appointment will also involve work of a general University nature. Candidates should be graduates and should have had previous administrative experience preferably in a University.
2. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT in the Admissions office concerned with undergraduate and postgraduate admissions. Candidates should be graduates. Previous administrative experience will be an advantage.

Salary for Post 1. will be on the Administrative Grade 1 scale: £12,280 - £15,700 p.a. and for Post 2. will be on the Administrative Grade 1A scale: £7,055 - £12,780 p.a. according to qualifications and experience.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar (Mr R.R. Mox), The University, 6 Kensington Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU, with whom applications (3 copies - indicating for which post application is being made), together with the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged not later than 12th November 1986.

The Research Centre for International Law, 5 Cranmer Rd, Cambridge CB3 9BL Telephone: (0223) 335358

The Research Centre is a University institution engaged in its own research projects. These currently include processing approximately 4500 pages a year of documents and legal texts in book form. It is, in effect, responsible for the preparation of the leading collection of international law cases, the International Law Reports.

The Research Centre is looking for a senior editorial assistant to work on all phases of the production of these publications. Tasks will include the identification and selection of suitable materials, preparation of summaries of judgments, checking of references, compilation of tables and indexes, and proofreading.

A specialist knowledge of international law is essential and preferably some academic or professional experience.

The post requires a high degree of literacy (with English as a first language), concern for detail, managerial skill and ability to get on with people.

Applications, in the form of a letter with a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, should be sent to the Assistant Director by 31 October 1986.

University of Warwick Professor of Education (Education and Industry)

Applicants are invited for a new Professorship in the Department of Education, in the field of Education and Industry. The Professor will also become the first Director of the newly established Centre for Education and Industry which has been formed within the Department in association with the Institute of Education. Candidates must have a keen appreciation of the opportunities for work on the interface between education and industry. Salary in the Professorial range, current minimum £19,010 (under review).

Applications (3 copies) to the Registrar, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL (phone 0203 523427) from whom further particulars may be obtained, quoting Ref. No. 11/A/86/J (please mark clearly). Closing date for applications is 18th November 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH POSITION

Applications are invited for an SERC funded SENIOR RESEARCH ASSISTANT tenable for three years from 1 September 1987 or earlier if convenient to work on studies of the large-scale structure in the Universe. An interest in Cosmology, the formation, structure and clustering of galaxies, stellar dynamics or numerical simulations would be desirable. Theoreticians and observers alike are encouraged to apply.

Initial salary up to £9,465 p.a. on Range 1A plus superannuation.

Applications (3 copies) naming three referees and including a statement of research interests should be sent (quoting reference P9) by 1 December 1986, to the Registrar, Science Laboratories, South Road, Durham DH1 1TA, from whom further particulars may be obtained or contact Dr. C.S. Frenk, Department of Physics.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

Department of Genetics and Microbiology

BASIC GRADE CYTOGENETICIST

There exists a newly created post for a clinical cytogeneticist in the Medical Genetics Laboratories at the University Medical School, Foresterhill, where diagnostic cytogenetic services are carried out for the Grampian Health Board. The successful applicant will be trained in all aspects of clinical cytogenetics including prenatal diagnosis. Every encouragement will be given towards obtaining the Diploma in Clinical Cytogenetics of the Royal College of Pathologists (DipCCP).

Applicants should hold an appropriate science degree. Salary £7,055 - £10,865 per annum, on the Range 1B Scale for Other Related Staff (under review).

Further particulars and application forms from: The Personnel Office, The University, Regent Walk, Aberdeen AB9 1FX with whom applications (2 copies) should be lodged by 14 November 1986 (Ref No ER/046).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM CHAIR OF LAW

Applications are invited for a Chair of Law. The vacancy arises from the retirement of Professor J.C. Smith at the end of the present session. The appointment is not confined to any particular field of Law.

Salary within the professorial range. Further particulars and application form returnable not later than 24 November 1986 from the Staff Appointments Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Ref No 1075.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN CHAIR OF GERMAN

Applications are invited for the Chair of German from candidates with a distinguished record in research and scholarship and the capacity for leadership in the Department. Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and University as a whole.

Further particulars and application forms from The Personnel Office, The University, Regent Walk, Aberdeen AB9 1FX with whom applications (2 copies) should be lodged by 12 December 1986 (Ref No ER/046).

UNIST

University of Wales

Department of PHYSICS, ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

(fixed term - one year)

to investigate the design of stabilised integrated circuit input diode oscillators for the short millimetre waveband. Knowledge of diode resonators and micro-electronic techniques is essential.

Applicants should have a good honours degree in an appropriate discipline and a PhD or similar qualification.

Salary: Within Range 1A, Research and Academic Staff

EM20 - £12,780 per annum

Applicants (quoting Ref. E94) for details and application form to: Staffing Office, UNIST, PO Box 88, Cardiff CF1 3XA.

Closing Date: 3 November 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTRA MURAL STUDIES

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The University proposes to appoint an Assistant Director within the Department of Extra-Mural Studies following the retirement of Mr. F. W. Waltham on 31 July, 1987. Applications are invited from persons with good academic qualifications and preferably with considerable experience of University continuing education.

The post carries the salary and status of a University Senior Lecturer. The present salary scale is £14,870 to £18,225 per annum (under review).

Applications (with the names of three referees) should be sent not later than 21 November 1986 to the Registrar and Secretary, University of Bristol, Senate House, Bristol BS2 1TH from whom further particulars should be obtained (quoting reference JC).

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Law Report October 20 1986

Public authority's right to plead time-bar

Arnold v Central Electricity Generating Board
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Nicholls

[Judgment October 15]

An action commenced in April 1984 against a public authority, for personal injuries which had first arisen in or before 1943 but had not been discovered until October 1981, was time-barred, and had been continuously since 1944, because the accrued limitation defence conferred by section 21 of the Limitation Act 1939 had not been abrogated by any subsequent legislation, even though section 21 itself had been repealed in 1954.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal by the defendant, the Central Electricity Generating Board, the successor of Birmingham Corporation as owner and operator of a power station at which the plaintiff's deceased husband, Albert Edward Arnold, had worked as a boiler cleaner from 1938 to 1943, from an order of Mr Michael Ogden, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge (*The Times*, January 24 1986; [1986] 3 WLR 171).

The deputy judge had held that an action commenced by the plaintiff, Mrs Emma May Arnold, as widow of Mr Arnold and administratrix of his estate, for damages for personal injuries caused by the defendant's negligence, was not statute-barred. Mr Arnold had died on 1982 of mesothelioma which had been discovered in October 1981 and which the plaintiff claimed had been caused by his exposure to asbestos during his employment at the power station.

Section 21(1) of the Limitation Act 1939 (repealed by section 1 of the Law Reform (Limitation of Actions) Act 1954) provided, *inter alia*, that no action in negligence was to be brought against a public authority unless it was commenced within one year of the accrual of the cause of action.

Mr Anthony Nicholls for the defendant, Mr John Foy for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that he was persuaded that the defendant was correct in its contention that the principle stated by the Privy Council in *Yew Bon Tew v Kenderaan Bas Mara* ([1968] 1 AC 553) applied and that therefore the defendant's accrued right to plead limitation defence, acquired by its predecessor under section 21 of the 1939 Act, still persisted since it had not been expressly taken away and nothing in any subsequent statute required or justified the conclusion that that right had been implicitly destroyed.

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Birmingham Corporation's right to plead a time bar had accrued not later than April 1944. In *Yew Bon Tew*, Lord Brightman said that such a right had accrued, albeit under a procedural statute, it was not to be taken away by conferring on subsequent legislation a retrospective operation unless such a construction was unavoidable.

The accrued right had passed to the electricity board under section 21 of the 1939 Act in respect of actions against the board and applied sections 2 and 3 of the 1939 Act to such actions as if the limitation period were three years. No one suggested that that Act had any retrospective effect upon previously accrued rights.

The 1954 Act had abolished special limitation periods for public authorities, repealing section 21 of the 1939 Act and section 12 of the 1947 Act, and had amended section 2 of the 1939 Act by adding a proviso reducing the limitation period for personal injuries from three years to one year, subject to claims to three years. Section 7(1) of the 1954 Act had expressly provided that that would not affect limitation periods which had already expired.

Section 1(1) of the Limitation Act 1963 had provided that section 21(1) of the 1939 Act would not afford any defence in an action in respect of personal injuries where the plaintiff was in a state of justifiable ignorance as to his right of action for more than two years after it had accrued; and section 6 of the 1963 Act had given effect to that effect in relation to causes of action which had accrued before the passing of this Act.

Parliament had thereby demonstrated an intention to interfere retrospectively with accrued rights to plead time bars, but only to the extent provided in section 1.

While the defendant was not entitled before 1963 to plead accrued time bars under section 21 and section 2(1) of the 1939 Act, the existence of the second defence did not impair the section 21 defence nor extend the effect of section 1(1) of the 1963 Act beyond its plain meaning.

There was accordingly nothing in section 1 which impaired the defendant's right to plead the bar accrued under section 21, and nothing in the 1963 Act as a whole could be construed as having that effect.

Further, section 1(4) of the 1963 Act had provided that nothing in section 1 excluded or affected any defence which might be available in any personal injury action by virtue of any enactment other than section 21(1) of the 1939 Act or of any rule of law or equity. Although section 21 was not within "any enactment", since it

had been repealed, "any defence available by virtue of any rule of law" included the defence under the rule in *Yew Bon Tew*, not of section 21(1).

In his Lordship's opinion that decision was unsatisfactory in some respects, and he had difficulty in seeing how the statutory provisions there considered could achieve that result; an accrued defence under the unamended section 21(1) was a defence available by virtue of the rule in *Yew Bon Tew*, not of section 21(1).

Certainly *Knipe* could not require or justify the conclusion that section 1 of the 1963 Act had abrogated an accrued defence under section 21.

Section 1 of the Limitation Act 1974 had inserted new provisions (sections 2A to 2D) into the 1939 Act, which did not expressly purport to remove any accrued right from anybody, but did have the effect, later of modifying in favour of plaintiffs the terms previously applicable to existing causes of action.

Section 2A did nothing to deprive a defendant of a valid defence which could be made without relying on section 2A.

When the 1975 Act was read with the preceding legislation, the conclusion that Parliament had intended to make accrued time bars arising under the provisions in force since 1944 to be subject to the new provisions in section 2A was unavoidable; it was equally clear that Parliament had not intended to disturb rights accrued prior to 1954 under section 21 of the 1939 Act, and that conclusion was supported by the inclusion of section 2B(2).

His Lordship was content to have reached that conclusion, since it would be a surprising consequence if the 1975 Act had deprived the defendant of an accrued right which had remained unimpaired from 1944 to 1975.

The Limitation Act 1980 was a consolidating measure, and did not in this respect depart from the position achieved by the 1975 Act. The appeal should therefore be allowed and judgment entered for the defendant.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Nicholls agreed.

Solicitors: Berrymans for Godfrey Diggle & McKay, Birmingham; Lawford & Co.

had been repealed, "any defence available by virtue of any rule of law" included the defence under the rule in *Yew Bon Tew*, not of section 21(1).

In *Knipe v British Railways Board* ([1972] 1 QB 361) the Court of Appeal decided that section 1 of the 1963 Act had the effect of abrogating accrued limitation periods under the Limitation Act 1939 in respect of personal injury actions provided by section 21(1) of the 1939 Act before it had been amended in 1954.

In his Lordship's opinion that decision was unsatisfactory in some respects, and he had difficulty in seeing how the statutory provisions there considered could achieve that result; an accrued defence under the unamended section 21(1) was a defence available by virtue of the rule in *Yew Bon Tew*, not of section 21(1).

Certainly *Knipe* could not require or justify the conclusion that section 1 of the 1963 Act had abrogated an accrued defence under section 21.

Section 1 of the Limitation Act 1974 had inserted new provisions (sections 2A to 2D) into the 1939 Act, which did not expressly purport to remove any accrued right from anybody, but did have the effect, later of modifying in favour of plaintiffs the terms previously applicable to existing causes of action.

Section 2A did nothing to deprive a defendant of a valid defence which could be made without relying on section 2A.

When the 1975 Act was read with the preceding legislation, the conclusion that Parliament had intended to make accrued time bars arising under the provisions in force since 1944 to be subject to the new provisions in section 2A was unavoidable; it was equally clear that Parliament had not intended to disturb rights accrued prior to 1954 under section 21 of the 1939 Act, and that conclusion was supported by the inclusion of section 2B(2).

His Lordship was content to have reached that conclusion, since it would be a surprising consequence if the 1975 Act had deprived the defendant of an accrued right which had remained unimpaired from 1944 to 1975.

The Limitation Act 1980 was a consolidating measure, and did not in this respect depart from the position achieved by the 1975 Act. The appeal should therefore be allowed and judgment entered for the defendant.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Nicholls agreed.

Solicitors: Berrymans for Godfrey Diggle & McKay, Birmingham; Lawford & Co.

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In his Lordship's opinion that decision was unsatisfactory in some respects, and he had difficulty in seeing how the statutory provisions there considered could achieve that result; an accrued defence under the unamended section 21(1) was a defence available by virtue of the rule in *Yew Bon Tew*, not of section 21(1).

Certainly *Knipe* could not require or justify the conclusion that section 1 of the 1963 Act had abrogated an accrued defence under section 21.

Section 1 of the Limitation Act 1974 had inserted new provisions (sections 2A to 2D) into the 1939 Act, which did not expressly purport to remove any accrued right from anybody, but did have the effect, later of modifying in favour of plaintiffs the terms previously applicable to existing causes of action.

Section 2A did nothing to deprive a defendant of a valid defence which could be made without relying on section 2A.

When the 1975 Act was read with the preceding legislation, the conclusion that Parliament had intended to make accrued time bars arising under the provisions in force since 1944 to be subject to the new provisions in section 2A was unavoidable; it was equally clear that Parliament had not intended to disturb rights accrued prior to 1954 under section 21 of the 1939 Act, and that conclusion was supported by the inclusion of section 2B(2).

His Lordship was content to have reached that conclusion, since it would be a surprising consequence if the 1975 Act had deprived the defendant of an accrued right which had remained unimpaired from 1944 to 1975.

The Limitation Act 1980 was a consolidating measure, and did not in this respect depart from the position achieved by the 1975 Act. The appeal should therefore be allowed and judgment entered for the defendant.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Nicholls agreed.

Solicitors: Berrymans for Godfrey Diggle & McKay, Birmingham; Lawford & Co.

Tribunal erred over lock-out

Express and Star Ltd v Bunday and Others
Before Mr Justice Popplewell, Mrs M. L. Boyle and Miss A. P. Vale

[Judgment October 10]

In a case concerning the introduction of new technology in the newspaper industry the Employment Appeal Tribunal had erred in its decision of whether the employers were conducting a lock-out, as defined by paragraph 24 of Schedule 13 to the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978, regard should be had to the fact that an industrial tribunal had erred in law in asking whether or not the employers were in breach of contract.

The employers, Express and Star Ltd, newspaper publishers, had appealed from a decision of a Birmingham industrial tribunal last January that they had jurisdiction to hear complaints of unfair dismissal by the employees, Mr R.M. Bunday and Mr J. A. Lynch for the employees.

The employees cross-appealed on the ground that the industrial tribunal had erred in law in finding that they had been taking part in industrial action and had not been locked-out at the date of their dismissals.

Section 62 of the 1978 Act, as amended by section 9 of the Employment Act 1982 provides: "(1) The provisions of this section shall have effect in relation to an employee (the complainant) who claims that he has been unfairly dismissed by his employer where at the date of dismissal - (a) the employer was conducting or instituting a lock-out, or (b) the complainant was taking part in a strike or other industrial action."

(2) In such a case an industrial tribunal shall not determine whether the dismissal was

fair or unfair unless it is shown - (a) that one or more relevant employees of the same employer have not been dismissed - (b) that the employer was conducting or instituting a lock-out, or (c) that the complainant was taking part in a strike or other industrial action."

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Geoffrey Palmer (left), Harry Ditson and Penelope Keith (ITV Sun)

CHOICE

them for recommendation, particularly when it's repeat. But if you were ever to watch only one natural history series, I'm sure that Charles Darwin himself would recommend *Life on Earth* (BBC 1, 7.35pm). It illustrates so vividly both the beauty and the unimaginable variety of wildlife (picture getting the million-odd species so far discovered on to Noah's Ark, two by two), and the awesome timescale of creation: our puny 2 million years set against, for example, the snail's 460 million. Tonight, David Attenborough reaches birds, "The Lords of the Air".

- When today's sportsmen claim that they are criticized for being "too honest", I tend to substitute the adjectives "vain, childish and self-indulgent". Which, of course,

has nothing whatsoever to do with the fact that Ian Botham and Clyde Taylor are talking tonight (BBC 7, 7.35pm), questioning to young people from all over Britain. The question of drug taking, not surprisingly, is uppermost.

- Any new sit-com featuring the comedic talents of Penelope Keith and Geoffrey Palmer should be worth sampling. Tonight sees the debut of *Executive Stress* (ITV, 8pm). Written by George Layton (*Don't Wait Up* fame), in which a publisher's wife, and former publisher's editor herself, decides to go back to work now that her five children are grown up.
- On its first showing last year, *Coming Next* (C4, 8.30pm) was an indispensable fixture of my late-night Saturday viewing for the first of several years. This year, a glorious spoof soap sees its illustrious narrator, by Sione Rann...

ers. Tonight's repeat, however, is a special edition of the programme, a clever pastiche of the pop music shows of the 1960s – remember *Ready Steady Go?*

Radio highlights, in brief, include **The Crossing Keeper's House** (Radio 4, 8.15pm), Dawn Lowe-Watson's play about the forced intimacy of strangers, a man and woman (Richard Pasco and Jennie Stoller) marooned in a snow-bound East Anglian cottage for days on end.

● And there is the much-lauded **Elly Ameling Recital** (Radio 3, 8pm) recorded at this year's Bath Festival. In the first half, the Dutch soprano is accompanied by **Rudolf Jensen** in Schubert lieder, and after the interval she gives us songs by French and Spanish composers.

Anne Campbell Dixon

BBC 2

6.50 **Ceefax AM.** Breakfast Time with Sally Magnusson and Guy Mitchell. Weather at 6.55; 7.25, 8.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and sport at 6.55, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 8.25 and 8.50; and a review at 9.00 of the morning news items at 8.37. Other items includes Steve Blackwell with the latest pop music news.

9.05 **9.05 AM.** The story of Maureen Hilton who was forced to give up her teaching career because of an accident. She joined her husband in a carpeting enterprise and found it a very competitive business. (r)

9.35 **Ceefax 10.30 Play School.** 10.00 **Ceefax.**

1.00 **1.00 PM.** Noon with Richard Whitmore and Sue Carpenter, includes news headlines with subtitles 1.25 Regional news and weather. 1.30 **Bertha.** (r)

2.00 **2.00 PM.** Doctor Deeds. The Clothes Show. Selina Scott meets young designers competing to work with Zandra Rhodes; Jeff Banks helps a woman in the lab working in a flaring garage; Jani crosses traces the half-century career of Charnos; Bruce Clifted previews his winter designs for women's legs; and Geoffrey Smith displays his wardrobe.

2.30 **2.30 PM.** International Snooker. Willie Thorne plays Warren King; and news of the Les Dooz/Wilde Headline. Introduced by David Vine 3.00 Flower of the Month. Geoffrey Smith discusses dahlias. (r) 3.10 Popeye. Cartoon 3.15 Songs of Praise from the Collegiate Church of St Mary's, Exeter. 3.20 **Handwriting.** (yesterday) (Ceefax) 3.52 Regional news. Pie in the Sky. For the young 4.10 Wizzel, presented by Paul Daniels 4.20 **The Mysterious Clock.** A 4.45 **Beast** adventure series. 4.45 **Beast**

the Teacher. Paul Jones presents another round of the puzzle versus teachers quiz game.

5.00 John Craven's Newsround 5.05 Steve Peter. Simon Groom turns detective as he tries to uncover the mystery of the photographic plates discovered in a Plymouth junk shop. Who took them and what is the story of the village captured in all its 19th century glory? (Ceefax)

5.35 Masterstream. Angela Ripston presents the first of a new series of the quiz game for teams.

6.00 News with Andrew Harvey and Frances Coverdale. Weather.

6.35 London Plus presented by John Stapleton, Linda Mitchell and Caroline Righton.

7.00 Wogan. Terry returns and among his guests are Ronnie Biggs and Marsha Hunt.

7.35 Life on Earth. David Attenborough's series traces the evolution of birds. (I) (Ceefax)

8.30 Brush Strokes. Comedy series about an amorous painter and cleaver. Starring Karl Howman, Cleefax

9.00 News with Julia Somerville and John Humphrys. Regional news and weather.

9.30 Panorama. The second part of the series examining the state of the National Health Service. John Ware reports on the financial constraints and goes behind the scenes at St Mary's Hospital, Fadingdon, the Northern General, Sheffield, and Glen View Hospital, Leicester.

10.10 Film: Invitation to Hell (1984) starring Robert Urich and Susan Lucci. A made-for-television thriller as the sinister sinners go on at an exclusive country club. Directed by Wes Craven

11.40 International Snooker. Introduced by David Vine from The Hexagon. Reading.

12.10

9.00 *Coelebs*.
9.38 *Daytime* on Two: organizations that help the unemployed
10.10 For four- and five-year-olds **10.15** Music: beats **10.38** The Halloween festival **11.00** A wildlife drama about a young buzzard **11.22** Third year opening **11.45** The Temple of the palace fortress of Masada.
12.08 A behind the scenes look at BBC Television's newsroom **12.40** Songs of protest **1.08** History of the television series of *Micro Life* **1.38** Training for management **2.00** Flowers and pictures **2.15** How forests are managed.
2.35 *Sign Extra*: A repeat of yesterday's *Sign Extra* **2.55** *Grand Experiments*: At the end of the Rainbow, adapted for the hearing impaired.
3.00 *International Snooker*: The Robinson Grand Prix. Willie Thorne against Warren King; and Les Dodd versus Mike Hallett. The commentators at the Hoxagon, Reading, are Ted Lowe, Jackie Kameharn and Clive Everton.
6.00 *Film*: *Charlie Chan in Egypt* (1936) starring Warner Oland. The wily oriental detective scrambles among the pyramids looking for an assortment of missing ancient Egyptian relics. With 16-year-old Rita Cansino, Laila Hayworth. Directed by Louis King.
7.10 *International Snooker*: Jimmy White plays Jack McLaughlin in a nine-fame match at the Hoxagon, Reading.
7.35 *Open to Question*: Ian Botham is questioned by a young studio audience on a variety of subjects, including pot smoking.
8.05 *The history of English*: Part five of the history of the English language traces the story of American English from the Revolution to the 1920s. Presented by Robert MacNeil. (Coelebs)
9.00 *Fewer's Town*: Basil takes an interest in his guests, Mr Johnson, and thinks he has smuggled a girl into his room. On the other hand, Basil is smitten by a pretty Australian guest and is persuaded by Syd to compromise positions. (j)
9.40 *Naked Video*: The latest programme in the series of comedy sketches starring, among others, Ron Bain and Helen Lederer. (j) (Coelebs)
10.05 *International Snooker*: Jimmy White plays Jack McLaughlin; and Neal Foulds against Clive Wilson.
10.50 *Newsnight*: The latest national and international news including extended coverage of the Vietnam main news stories of the day.
1.35 *Weather*.
1.40 *Telejournal*: Chantal Cruz introduces tonight's news as seen by viewers of RTL in London. (j) (Coelebs)

9.25 **Thames news headlines.**
9.30 **For Schools:** a fantasy story about kids **9.47** **The story of** comic **Episodes:** a story by Tony Ross **10.11** **Why we need water and how it is obtained** **10.28** **Product design** **10.45** **The Youth Training Scheme** **11.07** **Maths: the number 7** **11.19** **Science: keeping cool** **11.41** **Protecting metal from corrosion.**
12.00 **News and Current Affairs (12.10)** **Let's Pretend to the tale of The Man Who Had a Round Day.**
12.30 **The Medicine Man.** Homoeopathic doctors. (1)
1.00 **News at One** with John Suchet **1.20** **Thames news presented by Robin Houston.**
1.30 **Police Criminal Story (1954)** starring Anne Badier and Steve Cochran. Two criminal workers fall for a young German girl who joins the troops. A high drama directed by Kurt Neumann **3.25** **Thames news headlines** **3.30** **The Young Doctors.** Medical drama series set in a large Australian city.
4.00 **Tickle on the Tum.** Village lads for children **4.10** **The Trap Door.** Animated adventures set in a spooky castle **4.20** **He-And-She and the Masters of the Universe.** Animated science fiction adventures **4.45** **Henry's Leg.** Episode one of a new twice weekly drama series.
5.15 **Brainbusters.** General knowledge game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness.
5.45 **News 5.00** **Thames news** with Andrew Gardner and John Andrew.
5.55 **Help IV Taylor** **6.45** **News** with the programme in conjunction with Age Concern, about arranging a will.
6.55 **Crossroads.** A romantic night out for Sam and Nicola turns out to be a disaster.
7.00 **Krypton Factor.** Pat Corbridge, the first woman to win the

ITV/LONDON

and Nick Ruddick are the competitors in this week's heat of the mind- and muscle-strengthening competition.

7.30 **Coronation Street.** Mavis has a secret assignation with her 'good friend' (Oracle)

8.00 **Executive Series.** A new comedy series starring Penelope Keith and Geoffrey Palmer. (see Choice)

8.30 **World in Action: A Most Unsatisfactory Customer.** Part one of a two-programme series seen into the business activities of Abdul Shamji, head of the Gomba Group of Companies. Tonight - his dealings with Johnson Matthey Securities and the Conservative Party.

9.00 **Paradise Postponed.** Dr Saiter survives his fall while with the Hunt and asks Simeon Simcox if the Almighty could be a member of The League Against Cruel Sports. (Oracle)

9.00 **News at Ten** and weather, followed by Thames news headlines.

9.30 **Television 25 Reports Back.** A 25-minute series with updates to last year's fund-raising-for-charity 24 hour broadcast during which £2½ million was netted.

11.15 **The New Avengers.** Stood again in action when the pulchritudinous Purdy is kidnapped. (r)

12.15 **Night Thoughts.**

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 4

2.30 *The Late Late Show.* Dublin's popular Saturday night music and chat show hosted by Gay Byrne.

3.30 *Up the Angels.* Gordon Burns examines the future of Anglo-Irish relations if Dr Garrett Fitzgerald is replaced by Charles Haughey. With Tim Pat Cooney, Editor of *The Irish Press*, and John Healy of *The Irish Times*.

4.00 *Mavis on 4.* Mavis Nicholson talks to the Leader of the House of Commons, Kenneth Robinson Biffen, about his life and career.

4.30 *Countdown.* The reigning champion of the words not numbers game is challenged by Paul Robinson, a student from Tyne and Wear. Presented by Richard Whitley.

5.00 *Grampian Sheepdog Trials.* The second round of the Grampian Television Trophy. *Silents, Please** Highlights from the celebrated career of comedian William S. Hart.

6.00 *I could Do That?* The first programme of the series following the fortunes of four young people from the north-east of England each of whom is asked to start their own business. (r) (Oracle)

6.30 *Write On.* The adult literacy series presented by Ruth Pitt.

7.00 *Channel 4 News*

7.50 *Comment.* With her views on a topical issue. (r) Elizabeth Browning, Chairman of the Association for All Speech Impaired Children. Weather.

8.00 *Brookside.* Doreen and Tracy arrive home from their holiday to find the house in such a mess that they think it has been bombed; and Sheila decides to face the outside world but her nerve fails when she reaches the front door.

8.30 *Coming Next.** Alternative comedy sketch show ridiculing the stars of the Sixties. (r)

9.00 *St Elwehere.* Nurse Rosenthal informs her lover that she is pregnant. Dr Caldwell removes the bandages covering the face of the young woman disfigured by the Elephant Man's disease; and Dr Westphall puts his house up for sale.

9.55 *4 Minutes: Dig That Tombony.* A digger, Clark. The camera incontinently watches members of a club.

10.00 *Oit.* This perennitume programme in the series investigating the impact of the oil industry on the modern world examines the North Sea oil industry.

1.00 *Film: Best of Stonewall (1984)* (colour and black and white). A documentary tracing the history of the gay movement in the United States from the turn of the century to the 1989 riots in New York's Greenwich Village. Ends at

VARIATIONS

VARIATIONS

BBC1 Wales: 6.35-6.40pm Wales To Go, 6.50-7.10pm Home Brew, 12.10-12.20pm Wales News, 12.25-12.35pm Headline and Weather; **Scott. SCOTLAND** 6.35-7.00pm Inside the Ring, 6.50-7.10pm News, 12.25-12.35pm Nation Today; **S4C** 5.40pm Nation Today, 5.50-6.40pm Inside the Ring, 6.50-7.40pm Masterplan, 12.10-12.15pm Wales News, 12.20-12.30pm Headline and Weather; **ITV** 6.35-6.40pm Wales To Go, 6.50-7.10pm News, 12.25-12.35pm Wales News, 12.35-1.00pm Regional news

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm News 1.25pm Lookaround 1.30-1.40pm Film: Run a Crooked Mile 1.40-2.00pm News 2.00-2.10pm The 10.30 Show 2.10-2.15pm News 2.15-2.20pm Strictly Talk 10.32-10.36pm 12.00pm Talkies 10.30-10.40pm 12.30pm Listening for a Change, Clowdown

TVS As London except: 1.50pm News To Coast 3.30-3.40pm Very Important Person 3.45-4.00pm News 4.00-4.10pm News 4.10-4.15pm News 4.15-4.20pm News 4.20-4.25pm News 4.25-4.30pm News 4.30-4.35pm News 4.35-4.40pm News 4.40-4.45pm News 4.45-4.50pm News 4.50-4.55pm News 4.55-5.00pm News 5.00-5.05pm News 5.05-5.10pm News 5.10-5.15pm News 5.15-5.20pm News 5.20-5.25pm News 5.25-5.30pm News 5.30-5.35pm News 5.35-5.40pm News 5.40-5.45pm News 5.45-5.50pm News 5.50-5.55pm News 5.55-6.00pm News 6.00-6.05pm News 6.05-6.10pm News 6.10-6.15pm News 6.15-6.20pm News 6.20-6.25pm News 6.25-6.30pm News 6.30-6.35pm News 6.35-6.40pm News 6.40-6.45pm News 6.45-6.50pm News 6.50-6.55pm News 6.55-7.00pm News 7.00-7.05pm News 7.05-7.10pm News 7.10-7.15pm News 7.15-7.20pm News 7.20-7.25pm News 7.25-7.30pm News 7.30-7.35pm News 7.35-7.40pm News 7.40-7.45pm News 7.45-7.50pm News 7.50-7.55pm News 7.55-8.00pm News 8.00-8.05pm News 8.05-8.10pm News 8.10-8.15pm News 8.15-8.20pm News 8.20-8.25pm News 8.25-8.30pm News 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TV-AM

6.15 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; financial news at 6.35; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; exercises at 6.55 and 9.17; cartoon at 7.25; pop music at 7.55; and Jimmy Greaves' television highlights at 8.35. At 9.00, Timmy Mallett presents Wackadave.



Bill Oddie (centre) returns as Doctor Dimple, helped by Ralph
MacArthur and Ingeri Bodden in Tickle on the Tum (TTV 4pm)



Dinner for three: Mavis's quiet night out with Derek Wilton turns

Special Issue 1

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On medium waves.

News on the half-hour from 6:30am until 8:30pm then 10:00 am to 12:00 midnight.

5.30am Adrian John 7.00 Mike Smith's Breakfast Show 8.30 News 9.30 News 10.00 News

Newstest 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright 5.30 News 6.00 Andy Brown Brookes 7.30 Janine Turner 8.30 News 10.00 News

5.45 Karshay VHF Stereo
Radio 1 & 2 4.00m As Radio 2
10.00m As Radio 1, 12.00-4.00m As Radio 2

Stereo on VHF:

News on the hour, Headlines

5.30am, 8.30, 7.30, 8.30, 10.00 Sports 12.00pm, 2.02, 3.02, 4.02, 5.05, 6.02, 6.45 (incl opt), 9.55, 10.00, 10.55, 11.55, 12.00pm, 1.00pm, 2.00pm, 3.00pm, 4.00pm, 5.00pm, 6.00pm, 7.00pm, 8.00pm, 9.00pm, 10.00pm, 11.00pm, 12.00pm

Moores 7.30 Band - Jameson 8.30 Band Bruce 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.00 Gloria Jones 3.00 Lesley Hamilton 4.00 News 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Allen Dell with Dave and Deryn 7.30 Big Band Special, BBC Big Band, 9.00pm News, 10.00pm News, 11.00pm Best of Jazz, 9.55 Sports Report, 10.05 After's Away, Actor Bak and his Paramount Jazz Band and orchestra presents 11.06 Brian Matthews requests Round Midnight 11.00pm Richard Clough Presents Newbridge 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

6.55 Weather 7.00 News
7.05 Morning Concert
Pachelbel, Canard
Gibus (Academy of Ancient
Music); Havin, Sonata in
B minor (HXV1 332, with
James Gibson
(fortepiano); Telemann,
Oboe Concerto in E
minor; Mozart, Symphony
No 25, in A (K 201).
The English Baroque Society
6.00 News
6.05 Morning Concert (cont.)
Chopin, Ballade No 1, in
E minor, Op 25, with
Grawford (piano); Saint-
Saens, Cello Concerto in
E minor, with soloist
Laurie Harrell, Royal
Fest, Rome (Philadelphia
Orchestra/Philadelphia Munt.)
6.00 News
6.25 This Week's Composers:
Malcolm Arnold. Works
written up to 1955. Beckus
the Dandiprat
Gournemouth 90/96 (the
composer); Flute
Concerto No 1 (soloist
Richard Achey);
Variations on a Ukrainian to
song, with Edna Lees
(piano); Quintet for flute,
violin, viola, horn and
cello (Nest Ensemble).
10.05 The English Concert
Handel, Concerto
Grosso in E minor, Op 6 No 1
and Violin
Concerto in D, Op 8 No 1

11.40 BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, under Bryden Thomas, with Raphael Wallfisch (cello), Mendelssohn, *Overture*; Hebrides; Shostakovich, *Cello Concerto No 1*, in B minor; Dvorak, *Symphony No 5*, in F.

1.00 News

1.05 BBC Lighthouse Concert. Live from St John's Smith Square, London. The Chamber Quartet, Beethoven, *Quintet in F*, Op 18 No 1; Haydn, *Quintet No 3* (1924).

2.05 Music Weekly, introduced by Michael Oliver.


2.50 Nipper Records, Saint-Saëns, *Symphonic Poem: Le rouet d'Omphale* Op 31, Philharmonic under Charles Dutoit; Chausson, *Poème*, Op 25 (Nigel Kennedy, violin) Berlioz, *Symphonic Poème: La mort de Cléopâtre*; Borodin, *Le Prince Igor*, Juliette, with Florence Quattrone (mezzo-soprano), and the Cupido Quartet and Tom Krause (bass).

4.55 News

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. A selection of music for sex, extending, presented by Brian Kay.

6.30 Starter Playing Dohnányi, *Sonata* in B minor; Janáček, *Stránek*

On long wave. (c) Stereo on 5.55 Shipping 5.00 News Brief 5.55 6.00 Morning News 6.00 Week. An interview with leader in the agricultural industry followed by a five day weather forecast. 6.25 Prayer for the Day. 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary 6.35 Business News 6.55 7.55 Weather 7.00 7.55 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 The Week on 4. Programme previews. 8.45 Barry Fantoni's Chinese Recipes. 9.00 The Doc, with comments from guests Russell Parry and Janet Street-Porter. 9.55 Weather: Travel. 9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week with Richard Baker (b) 9.55 The Royal British Legion Esther Pantazis talks about the work of this national organization and its need for Poppy Appeal Collectors. 10.00 News; Money Box. 10.05 News and the latest updates on financial markets includes the 1986-7 United States Treasury of the Year award. 10.30 Morning Story: The Magic Shop, by H G Wells, read by Gerard Horne. 10.45 Radio 4 Services (a)



**Esther Rantzen appeals
Poppy Day collectors (9.52)**

7.45 Science Now. Peter Evans reviews discoveries and developments from the world's leading laboratories.

8.25 The Monday Play: The Crossing-Keeper's House. By Dawn Lowe-Watson. A snowstorm maroons Laura in a con-

9.30 stranger's house in a remote part of East Angles. John Morgan on the Family. In the second of

[illegible]

Standage; C P E Bach, *Symphony in B flat (Wq 162 No 2)*; Handel, *Concerto Grosso in G*, Op 5 No 1.

10.55 Bernard Roberts (piano) plays Beethoven, *Rondo in G*, Op 51 No 2; Brahms, *Variations and Fugue on a theme of Handel*, Op 24.



Malcolm Arnold: composer of the week (9.05am)

7.00 Music for Organ, played by John Scott, live from Westminster Cathedral. Masséna, L'Ascension; Dupré, Tu lucis ante terminum; Placère
8.00 Christus (Le Jour du Christ) by The Chorus and Fugue (Selve registre); Tourneure, transo
Durulé, Improvisation on
L'écume pascali.
8.00 Lieder Recital, Ely
Ameling (soprano) and
Rudolf Jensen (piano). Pa
one: works by Schubert.
8.05 A Walk Through Water.
Broadcast from the
account by the Rev Richard
Warner in 1979.
Snowdon and Sunset.
Linda Riebel; part Two.
9.05 Works by Rodrigo
Poulenc; Roberto, Gustavo
Granados, Hans and
Satie.
10.00 Jazz. Today, presented
by Charles Fox.
Featuring Toot Sweet.
11.00 A Summer's Tale. A
symphonic poem by Suk
performed by the Czech Po
under Libor Pesek.
11.57 News

Your Way, Brian Johnston visits Hartlepool and
11.48 Poetry Please! Listeners requested presented by P.J. Kavanagh.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer affairs.
12.27 Top of the Form. Nationwide general knowledge for schools. In round, North: Ripon Grammar School v Allerton High School. Leeds.
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One: News
1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping
2.00 Woman's Hour, including Audrey Whiting's Gal Audrey.
3.00 The Afternoon Play: Between the Gates, by Hugh Stoddart.
4.30 Kaleidoscope, Repeat of last Friday's edition.
5.00 PM News magazine. S. Shipping 5.55
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
8.30 Radio Active (5)
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers
7.20 On Your Farm

John Morgan reflects on what the family means to a poet and a pilgrim and of enduring ways of life.

9.45 Kaleidoscope, includes review of *The Mission*.

10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Hangover Square, by Patrick Hamilton 10.29 Weather

10.30 The World Tonight

11.15 The Financial World Tonight

11.30 Today in Parliament

11.45 Music at Night. Guitar music played by Robert August (s)

12.00 News; Weather 12.33 Shipping

WHF available in England and Wales only see above

Television: 11.55-12.00am War Schools: 11.00 Music Ma 11.20 Let's Move! (s) 11.30 The Music Scene (s) See For Yourself 1.55-3.00pm For Schools: 1.55 Listening Corner (s) 2.05 Picture (s) 2.20 Picture Scope (s) 2.40 Pictures in Your Mind (Stories) 2.50-PM (continued) 12.30-11.30am News Night-time Broadcasting: French \bar{e} : Horizons de France.

SPORT

England's final push ends in gallant failure

By Sydney Friskin

England 1
Australia 2



From a match that was close and exciting at the end, Australia emerged victorious over England at Willemsen yesterday to win the World Cup for the first time in their colourful career. They were bronze medal winners at Bombay four years ago.

The jubilant Australians would probably want to forget those last seven minutes of the match when England, with the crowd spurring them on, kept pushing up as though they could and throwing everything in attack. The 2-0 lead which Australia had established had suddenly been reduced and they were struggling to hold their advantage.

How relieved the Australians were was reflected in the words of their coach, Richard Agass, who said: "With seven minutes to go, we were trying to close up the game. But it didn't work, and in the end England were running all over us."

England were disappointed at not having achieved the ultimate, which was to win the World Cup, but there was no denying the Australians their triumph. They were the most exciting side, the enterprising, and the most entertaining. They had the energy and drive to brush most of their opponents aside.

By half-time when Australia were leading 2-0 they probably thought as many others did that the game was over, not bargaining for a stirring challenge by England who came to vibrant life, albeit a little late. Richard Dodds, the captain, said: "Australia had won most of their earlier games by

half-time, and when they went two ahead against us we knew it would be most difficult to recover."

And so it was after Australia had done more of the attacking in the first period. Within five minutes, Taylor in goal had saved from Mitton, and from Bestall at a short corner, the scramble that followed ending with an unavailing appeal by Charlesworth for another short corner.

England did not have a player of the quality of Charlesworth who not only did his share of the attacking, but also kept popping up at the most unexpected places to pull his colleagues out of trouble. He was awarded the prize for the player of the tournament, and Taylor for the best goalkeeper.

Except for Sherwani on the left flank, none of the England forwards made any inroads into Australian territory before the interval, the initiative remaining with Australia who went ahead in the fifth minute when Walsh scored from a pass by Hawgood. The lead was increased in the 24th minute when Bestall converted a short corner. But for the timely interception by Barber, Hawgood might have put Australia three up at the interval, an advantage which they were desperately seeking.

Beginning the second half with a substitution, Shaw, coming in for Leman, England made their first spirited rally with Kerly going through the middle but putting his final pass beyond Sherwani's reach. Australia were then awarded a short corner, but the umpire cancelled it out for time-wasting.

A great roar rent the air as England were awarded their first short corner, particularly as Barber began to position himself for the shot in the ninth minute of this period. He despatched it cleanly to-

wards goal only to see Davies clear from the line. The Australians tended to panic, and their captain, Bell, was given the yellow temporary suspension card for a rough charge on Grinley. While he was off he saw his centre-forward Walsh seize a chance and put a shot over the top. Within minute Sherwani returned the compliment.

Then the flames of interest were kindled anew as Barber's free hit through the middle of the field went straight to the Australian goalkeeper who lost sight of the ball and Potter nipped in to score amid a deafening roar. The Australian defence faltered as England kept pressing forward.

With three minutes to go, there was a short corner for England, and again Barber was sharpening his sword, but the Australian centre-half, Birmingham, who had a splendid game, was on him in a flash and managed to deflect the shot. The ensuing scramble led to another short corner and with the crowd still cheering, Barber raised his stick as the hit from the line was perfectly stopped. Alas, the ball was cast astray.

In a couple of minutes it was all over and the Australians hugged one another in celebration. Agass joyfully said: "We thought we had a good team in Los Angeles, but this is a better balanced one with a couple of younger players in it. Unfortunately for everyone, we hope to be even better in a couple of years' time." He was referring, of course, to the 1988 Olympic Games.

ENGLAND: Taylor, D. Feather, P. Barber, J. Potter, R. Dodds (capt), M. Grinley, S. Bachevalier (sub), K. Shaurat, R. Leman (sub), J. Shaw, S. Kerly, W. Hughes, J. Sherwani. AUSTRALIA: M. Sherwani, J. Bestall, C. Davies, D. Bell (capt), W. Birmingham, K. G. Weston (sub), D. Evans, C. Bach, T. Walsh, R. Dodds (sub), M. Hawgood (sub), P. Hasek, R. Agass (sub), S. Deo (Spain) and A. Renaud (France).



Final tension: England forward Hinghes is challenged by Australia's Batch yesterday (Photograph: Tommy Hindley)

Bridesmaids wonder what next

By David Miller

For the second time in 24 hours, England staged a rousing late recovery, but in vain. Australia, who have been scoring almost as freely as Steve Davis all fortnight, were emphatically the better team in yesterday's final of the sixth World Cup, the first to be played in Europe in 13 years.

England might complain about some of the opposition's tough tactics — their captain, Bell, was briefly sent off in the second half — but there was no complaining about their level of skill. They had scored well over four goals a game, so England may consider that theirs was an achievement in being runners-up by only a single goal.

Though they will be disappointed, following the success of their rousing semi-final recovery from 2-1 down on Saturday against West Germany, the Olympic silver medal winners, England have marvelously contributed to what, in its way, has been a minor British sporting triumph at Willemsen.

Some 14 hours of exposure by BBC television, highlighted by *Sportsnight* and shown live by *Grandstand*, has raised public consciousness. The event should persuade Mr Richard Tracey, the Minister for Sport, who was present yesterday, together with the Sports Council and local authorities, that hockey is exciting, disciplined and skilful and is worth the investment of a hundred artificial pitches.

Tracey had a message of goodwill in the tournament programme. What hockey needs is the goodwill of financial

grants in inner-city areas such as Willemsen: the doubling of the Sports Council's grant from the Government. The Sports Council contributed a mere £40,000 to the Cup budget of three quarters of a million. When I asked David Whitaker after the semi-final how, in an amateur sport, England could develop any further beyond their present limited level of training and coaching, the answer was simple: what has happened the past fortnight will inspire a new generation of young players, and that will raise standards.

Two days after the derisory rejection by the International Olympic Committee of Birmingham's Olympic bid, Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president, came to suburban north-west London to present yesterday's trophy, and saw for himself the kind of situation which for so long has epitomized British sports: enormous voluntary effort doing its utmost to compensate for basic lack of funds.

Britain contributed to the world much of all that is best in amateur sport, yet, last Friday, Birmingham paid the price of a century of amateurish administration in too many sports. It is somehow characteristic that Birmingham, creating admirable new facilities, was unfunded by the IOC, yet 40 years ago it was impetuous Britain, masters of improvisation, which volunteered to stage the Olympics when no one else had the money or energy after the war.

John Willmott, the honorary stadium

director at Willemsen, and the temporary limited company organizing the cup, have put on a memorable tournament in addition to the sponsorship of NEC Business Systems and Seiko.

The spirit of Dad's Army is both the soul and the shortcoming of so much of British sport. Almost every facility at Willemsen, other than the pitch and small main stand, has been temporarily erected and will now disappear. England's hockey quality will live on.

Mrs Thatcher offered a welcome to the world in Birmingham's video film presented to the IOC in Lausanne, but the sporting facilities of Britain in the main fall wretchedly short of the competence of our competitors, as Dodds, Kerly and the rest have just demonstrated. It is symptomatic that Southgate, one of our best hockey clubs, has no artificial surface on which the best hockey is now played.

There is so much about hockey, as television has revealed to a huge new public, to be recommended. Illegal physical intimidation is punished, the regulations are properly upheld, the game is only occasionally dangerous, the only equipment required is a ball and a stick. The administration on the pitch is a lesson to soccer. The two-umpire system, for so long stubbornly refused as a consideration by soccer, works admirably and permits players to get away with little.

The day English wonders ceased

Simon Barnes

England were rampant. The shots rained in on the Australian goal: over the bar by an inch; into the goal; cleared off the line once, and then again: missing the post by a cent of a point. At the other end, crouched like a parody of a wicketkeeper behind his monstrous pads, Ian Taylor, the England goalkeeper, watched as his luck faded itself into an inexorable pattern. He had given his lot, and must have known then it was not enough: not quite.

He had already conceded two goals, and that was too many. The first had come from a whistling open play move, the second from a short corner he had conceded. When he has saved hundreds of shots over the years, he has never performed a miracle of this kind. The miracle man of popular imagination had not performed to expectation. For once he had not done the impossible.

Taylor is the first English hockey player to become a media folk hero. He plays in what must be the most horrible position in any sport, and is best in the world at doing it. His lustrous courage, and the startlingly effective use of that courage, have captured everybody's imagination: in Los Angeles, for Gt Britain in the Olympic Games, and again over the past fortnight for England at Willemsen.

Watching the final prize slip away

One felt for all the English teams, at the end: they have given us all so much and such surprising pleasure: they have introduced us all to a new and stunning game; they have got the cheers of the nation behind them and they lost. But one feels especially for Taylor: performing his miracles as a matter of daily routine throughout the last couple of weeks, and finally, hopefully, watching the final prize slip away.

The use of plastic turf has revolutionised the role of the hockey goal.

keeper: he must convert himself into a flying horizontal barrier and allow the ball to strike him again and again with sickening force. Taylor bought his protective gear in Los Angeles when he was there for the Olympics: he knows it is still inadequate. It is mostly the stuff that ice hockey goalies use; they only play head on, while Taylor is likely to stop shots with any given part of his anatomy. The bits at the sides and back are horribly vulnerable. Yet the flying barrier does not do a lot of flinching.

Strikes like bolt of lightning

He wears a chest protector that the Metropolitan Police use as riot gear. He was given a plastic face guard that was guaranteed to stand up to the rigors of his position: he tried out at home and it shattered the first time a ball hit it. A hockey ball comes at you like a bolt of lightning. The skill needed to stop it is as immense as the courage.

"I hate it more than anything when people say after a shot has deflected off you, 'the goalie was so lucky,'" Taylor said. "Sometimes I'm 'lucky' dozens of times in a match." In the semi-final on Saturday he couldn't have been luckier: he made six stunning stops in, quite literally, two minutes play. He came from his goal to perform a flying scissor kick to clear. He was everywhere. But by the end of the final yesterday, there was no more luck left.

But Taylor had done more than anyone else to bring about this new wave of interest in the game of hockey. In Los Angeles and in Willemsen, his non-stop stream of miracles has given Great Britain and England the edge, and kept a legion of new converts to the game on the edge of their seats. Who was that masked man? That was English hockey's lone superstar.

The last 35 minutes of the World Cup were all England: Taylor, for once, unaided. It was all out of his reach by that time. One sensed his huge desire to do something in the last second he rushed from his goal to take a 10 yard hit himself. Nothing came of it. English hockey's first star, the man who has performed a thousand miracles in a fortnight for his team, was just one miracle short when the fortnight ended on the second plastic of Willemsen.

GOLF

Ballesteros and Langer are stranded as night draws in

From Mitchell Platts, Versailles

Severiano Ballesteros and Bernhard Langer shared the Lancôme Trophy when daylight forced their sudden death play-off on the St-Nom-la-Bretteuse course to be curtailed after four extra holes. Ballesteros and Langer have waged many battles during their careers but none more dramatic than this one.

The conclusion came when both players approached the Tournament Director, Tony Gray, after putting-out on the fourth extra green.

For Ballesteros it was the end of a quite astonishing year

in Europe. It gave him a sixth victory, even if this one was shared, and it took his winnings for the season to more than £240,000. For Langer it was a satisfactory end to his brief European campaign in which his only previous win this year was the German Open.

Even so, it was not a satisfactory end for the championship itself. As the skies darkened it became clear that the two players would be forced to end their conflict, which was a pity for the huge crowd which had gathered on

the outskirts of Paris to watch this absorbing contest unfold. The Ballesteros-Langer match had finished more than two holes behind the one in front of them, but with spectators swarming along the fairways, it was inevitable that there would be serious delays. The question which had to be asked was whether or not play had been started early enough in the knowledge that darkness could affect a sudden-death finish.

Langer compiled a 69, compared to Ballesteros' 70, to elbow his way into a play-off. Both players finished with scores of 274 which is 14 under par. Yet, after six holes, Langer appeared to be trailing in the Spaniard's slipstream with little chance of levelling with him, let alone moving past. Ballesteros had begun the final round with a lead of one shot and he increased that to four. But the next three holes put a different complexion on matters. A three iron to 25 feet, from where he holed, gave Langer an eagle three for the seventh compared to Ballesteros's four. Then Ballesteros took three putts on the next green. Langer, seizing his chance, carefully studied a curling putt of 16 feet on the ninth green and to his joy, the ball disappeared for a two.

Ballesteros, now with a fragile, one-shot, lead, gave himself a cushion again when he reached the long 12th with two woods for a birdie. Langer, however, once again reduced his deficit to one with a birdie at the 14th. He had a clear chance to level at the 17th but missed from seven feet for a birdie. Even so, he confidently holed from a similar length on the last green to ensure a play-off.

Des Smyth, of Ireland, stormed out of the pack to take third place with a score of 66 for a total of 275. He seemed to have little chance of doing so until he chipped in from 25 yards for an unlikely eagle two at the 14th. He salvaged a par from out of a bunker at the 15th, then single putted each of the last three greens to finish with three birdies.

FINAL SCORES (GB and Ireland unless stated): 274: S Ballesteros (Sp), 67, 68, 70; B Langer (WG), 73, 66, 66, 69, 283; G Brand Jr (US), 70, 64, 77, 275; D Smyth, 72, 68, 68, 66, 276; S Tarnow, 71, 64, 74, 67; S Lyle, 70, 68, 70, 70, 277; J Brand (SA), 72, 71, 68, 66; G J Brand, 69, 68, 71; M O'Connell (Sp), 71, 69, 68, 71, 284; C Savage (US), 68, 67, 70, 72, 275; B Broodhooft (SA), 68, 70, 73, 67, 284; A Forrester (GB), 67, 67, 70, 70, 274; M James, 70, 67, 72, 73; R Rafferty, 73, 69, 71, 68, 284; O Seitzberg (Swe), 72, 71, 68, 73; M MacIntyre (Zim), 70, 72, 70, 72; I Woodman, 70, 68, 70, 70, 287; A Garrido (Sp), 71, 74, 67, 75; J-M Canizares (Sp), 72, 70, 74, 71, 286; M Huthwaite, 73, 71, 71, 73, 291; H Clark, 72, 74, 70, 75; N Price, 75, 69, 75, 72; R Lee, 70, 72, 71, 70, 286; E Cresser, 70, 72, 70, 72, 72; J Morgan, 74, 74, 70, 74; M Tappa (Fr), 70, 72, 74, 74, 286; M Moutard, 74, 69, 68, 73, 284; J Moutard, 74, 77, 73, 78; R Heford, D Faherty, J Thorpe (US).

Cudmore working on improvements

"We finished up in the frame and I am not displeased with our performance. Having now raced against our 12 opponents, we know our weaknesses and how to improve them."

That was how Harold Cudmore, skipper of Britain's America's Cup challenger, White Crusader, summed up his crew's performance in the first round-robin trials that ended in Fremantle yesterday.

With three boats tying for first place on points, the Royal Thames challenger was forced to share fourth place with the radical, twin-riggered, Gary Mull-designed, USA II skippered by San Franciscan Tom Blackaller, after losing Sunday's win against Italia in the protest room.

With fractions dividing the first five boats, each syndicate is now pouring over the Delta times of their rivals during each race in an attempt to pinpoint their weaknesses and work out ways to match their strengths, making the necessary adjustments to their own boats before the start of the second round-robin series for these challengers starting on November 2 when the winners of each race will be awarded five points.

An analysis of the eight days during the past series, when

each of the top five boats were racing, shows the full extent of the speed difference between Britain's challenger and the Chris Dickson-skipped, New Zealand IV, which proved to be the fastest boat on the water.

Upwind, White Crusader was fourth fastest, setting an average speed during these eight races of 7.84 knots against 7.99 knots of the New Zealand boat. Downwind, where Crusader lost most ground to her rivals, particularly in the early stages of the competition, she was slowest among the top five with an aggregate speed of 7.9 knots against the 8.3 knots achieved by Dennis Conner's Stars and Stripes '87. However, new spinners taken on board halfway through the series brought the Howlett design up to speed with the best by the time the series ended.

The British still have their work cut out improving their reaching performance, for they were again slowest among the top five with a mean speed of 9.16 knots against the 9.3 knots achieved by the New York Yacht Club challenger America II.

Crusader's average speed around the course during these eight comparable races was 8.18 knots which, when set against the 8.36 knots achieved by New Zealand's "plastic-fantastic", leaves her

at more than a 3½ minute disadvantage over a full cup course.

Lack of stability was one of the problems facing the British crew, but a new keel to be fitted to the boat before the next series should solve this problem. Her sail wardrobe also showed some deficiencies, but the £1.1 million sponsorship from White Horse is already producing benefits in this area.

The number of breakages sustained during these early races to sails, mast, winches, sheets and instruments has also been cause for concern. Other syndicates, however, have shown themselves to be in a far worse state. The Courageous crew, who have almost needed a calendar to count them round the course, cancelled a press conference called last night to announce the purchase of a replacement 12 metre — probably America II's trial horse US44 — while negotiations continue.

The two Italian syndicates are expected to change their boats for unproven radical designs which are both undergoing major structural surgery, and Heart of America, which underwent changes as soon as she arrived in Fremantle last month, is also expected to go back into the builder's shed for further modifications.

Widnes blow

Widnes Rugby League Club have been shaken by the news that their Australian scrum half, Craig Coleman, must return to South Sydney by March 1. Widnes are appealing because they feel March is the most important time for cup ties.

Myler stays

Tony Myler, the Great Britain stand-off, has withdrawn his transfer request and pledged his future to Widnes rugby league club.

Doncaster duo

Doncaster rugby league club have signed Tony Kemp, a under-21 international centre and Telmadge Sharrock, a second row forward from Waitara, a top New Zealand club.

LeMond faith

Greg LeMond, the first American winner of the Tour de France in July, has renewed his contract in Paris with his La Vie Claire cycling team, until the end of 1988. LeMond said he would only consider changing teams if an American corporation offered to sponsor a top-ranking American squad.

Trust post

Richard Faulkner, the secretary, has been appointed chairman of the Football Trust to succeed Sir Norman Chester who died last month.

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